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CDB SEEKS ADDITIONAL \$1.4 MILLION FOR ENERGY ASSESSMENT

Bridgetown THE NATION in English 7 Sep 81 p 3

[Text] The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), needs another US \$1.4 million to complete its five-year assessments of the wind and solar potential of seven Eastern Caribbean islands, authoritative sources said recently.

The sources said the bank would be seeking to raise the additional funds needed to complete all phases of the assessments.

The CDB had obtained US \$512 000 to cover the first two years of the project which started in January.

The programme involves studies and data collections of solar radiations and wind speeds in Barbados, Antigua, Montserrat, St Kitts-Nevis, Barbuda and St Lucia.

A spokesman for the Caribbean Meteorological Institute (CMI), which is coordinating the project, said it is on schedule. Work has begun in Barbados, Antigua and Montserrat.

The CMI has set up five control stations in Barbados. The stations are basically 30-foot masts with equipment that measures solar radiation and wind speeds.

CMI teams conduct studies of the data at these stations. CMI officials said the project in Barbados should be completed in another two weeks and control stations have already been set up in Antigua and Montserrat.

The project is aimed at providing governments with studies on the most suitable locations for solar and wind energy systems which could be set up to reduce the high costs of imported fossil fuels.

A CDB official said the seven islands had been chosen first because they did not have significant hydro potential and it was important "to get some energy resource assessments going in these islands."

CMI officials said it is hoped that all of the CDB's member countries will have their solar and wind potential studies. (CANA)

CSO: 3025/01

GOVERNMENT, AMOCO AGREE ON PRICE, SUPPLY TERMS FOR GAS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

GOVERNMENT and Amoco Trinidad Oil Company have agreed on a new price and terms for the supply of natural gas to the National Gas Company.

The agreement is expected to result in the development of gas reserves off the East Coast.

Signing of the agreement will take place this evening at the Hilton Hotel in Port of Spain.

Announcement of the new agreement was made by Rep. Errol Mahabir, Minister of Energy and State Enterprises, at the commissioning yesterday afternoon of the Oxygen Nitrogen Plant constructed by Trinidad and Tobago Oil Company Limited (Trintoc) at Point Lisas yesterday evening.

Minister Mahabir said that agreement had been reached on the price and other terms for the supply of natural gas to the National Gas Company.

He said: "As a consequence, a new gas field will be developed. A 20 slot drilling platform is to be installed in the South East Galeota area to be ready for production of natural gas in 1983."

The Minister also revealed that the National Gas Company had been directed to take immediate steps to design, construct and install a new 30 mile off shore pipeline from the South East Galeota field to Point Galeota.

SIGNING TODAY

The White Paper on Natural Gas which was the subject of parliamentary debate earlier this year noted that a substantial portion of the total proven gas reserves of Trinidad and Tobago lies in the area held under licence by Amoco off the East Coast of Trinidad.

The licence provides a

will, nevertheless, be in a position to expand, if necessary, in order to protect the local market from the present monopoly situation."

Establishment of the plant was a step towards diversification of Trintoc, and at the same time introduce the company to the Point Lisas Complex.

STORAGE PLAN

Pointing out that the plant was coming on stream at a significant stage in the country's economic transformation. Mr Mahabir said that steps were being taken to enhance the conservation and use of energy resources, particularly natural gas.

"National Energy Corporation, Trintoc, NGC and the Ministry of Energy are now evaluating bids to award the contract for the storage of natural gas in underground reservoirs in the Penal area", he said.

Minister Mahabir stated that the NGC had completed installation of a second "jacket" as part of the project to collect 100 million cubic feet per day of natural gas currently being flared off the East Coast.

The plant, which will produce both liquid and gaseous oxygen and nitrogen, has a daily production capacity of four tonnes of liquid oxygen-nitrogen, 30 tonnes of gaseous oxygen and 20 tonnes of gaseous nitrogen.

It has a built-in storage capacity of 98 tonnes liquid oxygen, 64 tonnes liquid nitrogen and 8.7 tonnes gaseous oxygen.

The installation is to ensure that in the event of emergency shut down supplies to ISCOTT and Fertrin would continue.

DETAILS GIVEN ON CARICOM FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING

Report on Seaga Speech

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 5 Sep 81 pp 1, 16

[Text]

PRIME MINISTER, THE RT. HON. EDWARD SEAGA, told CARICOM Foreign Ministers yesterday that the strategy for economic development in the Caribbean in the 1980s must be a dynamic export thrust to earn foreign exchange.

Mr. Seaga was giving the main address at the opening session of the extraordinary meeting of the CARICOM Foreign Ministers' Standing Committee at the Kingston Inter-Continental Hotel, downtown Kingston.

"Economies which could previously survive by treating foreign exchange earnings as secondary in importance, must now elevate export earnings to the place of primacy in any development thrust to keep pace with the rapid growth in the price of fuel and other imports," the Prime Minister said.

The dominant strategy of the '80s therefore will have to be in a different direction, a dynamic export thrust to earn foreign exchange.

"This thrust can only mean increased trade, new exports with some flow-back into new imports to enlarge the two-way traffic in trade.

"A Caribbean policy to be meaningful must examine the means of accommodating increased trade, and particularly the structure of tariffs, quotas and preferences which can be adjusted to induce greater exports from the Caribbean region."

• LOGICAL MARKETS

Mr. Seaga said that the logical target markets for such exports are inevitably the giant North American economies of the United States and Canada.

Two other CARICOM Heads of Government are attending the meeting. They are the Hon. Miss Eugenia Charles, Prime Minister of Dominica, and the Hon. George Price, Premier of Belize.

Other heads of delegations attending the meeting are, Mr. Lester Bird, Deputy Premier of Antigua, and Minister of External Relations, Mr. Rashleigh Jackson, Guyana's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Charles Skeete from Barbados, Mr. Unison Whiteman, Grenadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Barry Auguste from St. Lucia, and Mr. Basil Pitt representing Trinidad and Tobago.

The meeting, which continues today is being held at the invitation of Deputy Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, who is also Minister of Foreign Affairs. It was preceded by a CARICOM Finance Ministers' Meeting which started Tuesday and ended on Thursday.

• CARIBBEAN BASIN PLAN

On Monday the CARICOM Foreign Ministers will be joined by Foreign Ministers and representatives from the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Suriname, and other countries in the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development. They are aiming towards negotiations with the United States, Canada, Mexico and Venezuela on the formulation of a "Caribbean Basin Plan" for economic development.

Chairman of the opening session was Dr. Kurleigh King, CARICOM Secretary General. Mr. Bird spoke on behalf of the Lesser Developed Countries (LDCs) and Mr. Jackson on behalf of the More Developed Countries (MDCs). Mr. Whiteman, the Chairman of the Standing Committee also spoke.

Mr. Seaga told the meeting that there was a greater commonality of interest currently in the Caribbean which should make it easier to frame a common policy to deal with common problems.

He said that the chief problem of the region is unemployment. As a whole the region had a 15% unemployment figure. To reduce the level to the 5% enjoyed by industrialised countries would require U.S. \$6 billion worth of capital investments, and US \$1.5 billion per annum of investment to keep it at the 15% level.

"It need hardly be said that these resources are not available entirely from within the region," Mr. Seaga said. "Conversely, if the Caribbean region cannot fully subscribe the capital required to reduce unemployment

levels or to stabilize them, then the choice which confronts us can be logically deducted: Do we allow unemployment to deteriorate because of insufficient resources or do we devise policies to supplement those resources to enable the best efforts to be made to maximise opportunities for the labour force?

• THE ONLY RECURSE

"To proceed, I act on the assumption that the Caribbean policy-makers are resolved to mobilize external resources as a supplement to domestic investments as the only recourse to meaningfully tackle unemployment and raise the standard of living.

"The investment channel which largely preoccupies Governments is the flow of official aid. Aid-flows to the public sector are vital to establish the infra-structure for development, utilizing concessionary financing not generally involved in the market place.

"But aid-flows to the public sector are comparatively small in relation to the size of investment packages needed to create meaningful growth. Increases in aid are essential to any framework of new policies because of the type of friends which aid provides and the purposes to which it can be put.

"But such increases as increments on already small packages are still likely to be small aggregates compared to need. Aid flows alone cannot generate the increments we seek for development and growth. At best official flows must be considered essential to create the primary infrastructure required to attract and generate productive secondary investments.

"In Caribbean economies for the great part the dynamic sector which produces most of the real growth is the private and not the public sector.

• PRIVATE INVESTMENT

"In contrast to the limited resources of public investment channels, the real sources of big financing are private investment flows, which, aside from magnitude reach the sector which generate most of the productive growth.

"A Caribbean policy should therefore move beyond the question of aid-flows only, to examine how to induce greater private investment flows and in a manner sensitive to national needs and feelings.

"Private investment has been guided largely by the strategy of import substitution, creating industries to produce locally what was previously imported. This strategy has served its purpose well, it has been the engine for the development thrust of the last three decades. But it has run its course by exhausting most of the possibilities for import substitution.

"Some economies are too small to sustain this type of industrialization at all. A new strategy must emerge for the '80s. Bearing in mind the crippling increases in the price of oil, and depletion of foreign exchange balances, that strategy is not difficult to identify.

• FIVE-FOLD INCREASE

"The cost of oil to the Caribbean region in 1973 was US\$384 million. This has increased nearly five fold in seven years to US \$1,700 million in 1980. Economies which could previously survive by treating foreign exchange earnings as secondary in importance must now elevate export earnings to the place of primacy in any development thrust to keep pace with the rapid growth in the price of fuels and other imports.

"The dominant strategy of the Eighties, therefore, will have to be in a different direction, a dynamic export thrust to earn foreign exchange.

"This thrust can only mean increase trade, new exports with some flow-back into new imports to enlarge the two-way traffic in trade.

"A Caribbean policy to be meaningful must examine the means of accommodating increased trade, and, particularly the structure of tariffs, quotas and preferences which can be adjusted to induce greater exports from the Caribbean region.

"The logical target market for such exports are inevitably the giant North American economies — the United States and Canada.

Mr. Seaga said that recent tariff liberalization by the U.S. authorities have resulted in 85% of all exports from the Caribbean to U.S. markets entering duty free in 1979.

A further list of 85 items now before the U.S. Government for approval for G.S.P. treatment, if approved, would lift the list of duty-free items to a value of more than 90% of the total U.S. imports from the area.

He said that though little room remained for improving the tariff arrangements, two of the most critical categories of production with the greatest potential for employment — shoes and garments — still presented high tariff barriers to imports from the region.

He said that it may be contended, however, notwithstanding the need to shelter certain industries, that total Caribbean output and meaningful expansions of this output is too small to offer any effective competition to current levels of U.S. domestic production.

He said that reduced tariffs to expand trade and private investment flows is not the only mechanism for adjustment, as quantitative prohibition plays a very important role in the prohibition of imports into the U.S. market.

Mr. Seaga noted that an Act of Congress permits components parts of a product to be exported from the U.S.A. to an external destination where it is assembled and re-exported back to the U.S., paying duty only on part of the production completed off-shore.

He said, however, that there may be room for further benefits even without lifting the quota levels, if collectively it is proposed that only the component of work accomplished overseas should count towards the quota and not the entire garment, the bulk of which originated in the U.S.

"Hence, if only 25% of a garment is the value of the work added in the Caribbean, the size of national quotas could be increased four-fold if only that external value was assessed by quota," the Prime Minister said.

He said that many more such devices could be discussed, but unnecessarily so in that the comments on tariff and quota barriers will illustrate the directions to which the region must look as a positive means of creating a new development dynamic through expanding export earnings and new employment opportunities.

• MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE

The transfer of resources by private investment include financial flows in addition to mechanisms of trade, he said. Improved credits and arrangements all make a meaningful difference to the quantum of financial investment.

"The mechanism, for the most part already exists. Both the EX-IM Bank and OPIC are valuable financial intermediaries in the expansion of credits and the provision of insurance cover for new credits.

Mr. Seaga said the countries of the region would have to acclimatize their own economies to effective strategies to induce capital and convert into productive gain.

"An hospitable environment is the basic condition which any capital importing country must supply," the Prime Minister said. "If we fail in that basic prerequisite we lose the opportunity to increase our own limited resources, to extend the growth of our economies and to expand opportunities for employment and improved standards of living for our people.

• SUCCESSFUL STRATEGY

"The Caribbean has had success in its development strategy of attracting capital inflows, converting them to productive enterprise and accomplishing all this without prejudicing sovereign rights or national interest."

He said he hoped that the current meeting would resolve to support a "Caribbean Basin Plan" and to convene a technical committee as soon as practicable.

"Thereafter the way would be clear for the Caribbean and Central American Communities to meet with the United States, Canada, Mexico and Venezuela, first at the technical level then at a Foreign Ministers Conference. From that point on the end would not be far, providing harmony prevails".

Other Speeches

Kingston THE DAILY CLEANER in English 7 Sep 81 p 16

[Text]

Cuverna's Foreign Minister, Mr. Rashleigh Jackson, told Friday's opening session of the Canicom Foreign Ministers' Standing Committee meeting at the Kingston Inter-Continental Hotel, that one of the "axiomatic" positions for the forward movement of Caribbean countries must be the recognition of ideological pluralism.

Mr. Jackson was speaking on behalf of the More Developed Countries of the region, (MDCs), at the Foreign Ministers' meeting, where plans for a programme of developmental assistance for the Caribbean and Central America are being discussed.

He said that there are clearly several fundamental and axiomatic positions which must be the basis of any new plan for the economic and social development of the Caribbean, and the peoples of the Caribbean basin.

"We live in a plural world," Mr. Jackson said. "We live in a world in which there are ideological differences between the giants and there are no answers to the differences even between such systems in the international system. Therefore, it seems to me that one of the axiomatic positions for moving forward must be a recognition of ideological pluralism.

Respect for integrity

"A second axiomatic position must be respect for the integrity of our institutions and their autonomous character, as well as respect for the integrity of our states and their right to pursue their own political social and economic development.

"If the efforts of the international community are designed to build a regime in which we can have peaceful co-existence between different systems, we in the Caribbean should do no less. Indeed, I think our history enjoins us to set the lead in this direction.

Mr. Jackson said that the meeting had made a good beginning. The process of consultation has just begun and the basis of consultation would need to be widened once the region was certain of its own internal cohesion, and the contradictions between the positions removed.

Responding to the speech given at the start of the conference by Jamaica's Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga, Mr. Jackson said on behalf of the MDCs, that the Prime Minister's speech had set the correct ambience for discussions.

"Let me conclude Mr. Chairman by reiterating our deep gratitude for the warmth and comfort that has been extended to us," he concluded.

On behalf of LDCs

Mr. Lester Bird, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of External Relations in Antigua, speaking on behalf of the Lesser Developed Countries (LDCs) expressed the view on behalf of the LDCs that the Caribbean Basin Plan being discussed at the meeting should contain the same types of agreements as those which made the Marshall Plan succeed.

Mr. Bird said that he could not help being "a little skeptical of another plan by our friends, the United States, Canada, Mexico and Venezuela, for a joint approach to Caribbean development aid."

He said that the LDCs of the Caribbean community have had the experience of the Caribbean Group for Co-operation in Economic Development, which after four years has realised no additional benefits.

"Indeed, the four years have been characterised more by frustration than by success," Mr. Bird said. "We therefore are naturally wary that talk on social and economic development is essentially for public relations purposes.

"Of course, we welcome any serious initiative to hasten the process of tackling the problem created in our economies largely by external influences, and in that context we are grateful to our friends for their apparent interest. However, it is not without significance that apart from a communiqué issued at the end of the Nassau meeting (of the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Venezuela) little is known about the development aid plan being discussed by our four friends.

Mr. Bird said that the LDCs wanted to fully participate in the development of the programme. He said that too often in the past plans have failed because the planners failed to take consideration of the priority concerns of those for whom the plans are made. He said that the delegates should not leave Jamaica without establishing arrangements for compiling their own development priority areas for transmission to the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Venezuela. Those areas should be guided by the original concept of a real "Mini Marshall Plan" which inspired the Nassau meeting.

Marshall Plan

He said that the original Marshall Plan was formulated on a concept of independence, a recognition that the future of the U.S. and the future of the Western European nations were "inextricably intertwined."

"Is there any real difference now between the relationship of the four countries which met in Nassau and the rest of the Caribbean basin? For instability in any of our countries starts a ripple whose resulting wave affects all those whose shores are washed by the Caribbean sea".

He said that the Marshall Plan for Europe was dramatically successful because of three principal reasons: the volume of aid was large; the paths were clearly defined within a fixed time-frame; the recipients joined together in the Organization for European Economic Co-operation to exercise some responsibility for the allocation of aid.

Piece-meal basis

He said that the most important principle involved in the agreement was the concept that U.S. economic aid should not be on a piece-meal basis, but on a regional plan drawn up by European countries.

"I respectfully submit that we should strive to ensure that the Caribbean development aid plan embraces the following: a comprehensive approach which tackles development on a long-term as well as a short-term with the fullest participation of the Caribbean territories; a fixed time-frame of no longer than five years to achieve well defined goal; a large volume of aid with its greater proportion allocated to permit the LDCs to develop the infrastructure so that they may take advantage of access to preferential tariffs.

Solidarity

Another speaker at the meeting was the chairman of the opening session, Dr. Kursleigh King, secretary-general of CARICOM.

Dr. King said that the Caribbean had now entered into the period where there is need for a higher degree of political co-ordination and solidarity.

"Our objective should be the reaffirmation of our unique development needs and the formulation of a plan permitting them effectively. That must indeed be the primary objective of our consultations, and as I venture to think it is only after we have done this that we

can define our reaction to the ideas which are being canvassed in the context of the current Caribbean Basin proposals".

Mr. Unison Whiteman, Foreign Minister of Grenada and chairman of the Standing Committee of CARICOM Foreign Ministers called on the Caribbean countries to continue to maintain the honour, dignity and spirit of co-operation.

He said he looked forward to a serious meeting. He paid tribute to the Jamaican Government for hosting the meeting. He said that the Caribbean was pleased to welcome any initiative towards solving the problems facing the region.

CSO: 3025/02

BRIEFS

JAMAICA-TRINIDAD TRADE--Jamaica imported \$151.6 million worth of goods from Trinidad and Tobago during 1980 and exported \$91.7 million to this country. Imports during the first five months of this year by Jamaica were \$81.8 million while exports to Caricom countries totalled \$45.4 million. According to a release from the Jamaican High Commission, the figures showed that Jamaica was interested in buying from Caricom countries and not only in selling to them. The release stated that over the five-year period--1976 to 1980--that country's exports to Trinidad amounted to \$353.6 million while Trinidad and Tobago's exports reached \$416.6 million, a balance in favour of the twin-island state of \$63.0 million. It noted an article in the TRINIDAD GUARDIAN on August 20 stated that Jamaica's exports to Caricom countries increased by 11 per cent for the first seven months of this year. "This is heartening news for Jamaican at home and overseas responsible for export promotion." [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 25 Aug 81 p 4]

BARBADOS-ANTIGUA COOPERATION--The Tourism Ministers of Barbados and Antigua yesterday made moves towards joint tourism and aviation initiatives for the two islands. Ministers Bernard St John of Barbados and Lester Bird of Antigua met for two hours yesterday, as immediate prospects for the tourism industry in the Caribbean remain under a cloud. After the meeting, Mr Bird told the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) that Barbados and Antigua decided to come together because of the commonality of their problems and the need to decide jointly on moves to meet the negative impact of recession in North America on Caribbean markets. He said issues discussed included servicing of the Eastern Caribbean by Caribbean Government-owned Liat airline, the state-run BWIA of Trinidad and Tobago and other airlines, methods of sales to the region and air fares. "We are looking at a number of areas, including double taxation agreements signed by most CARICOM member states....we are aware that this matter can cause some friction, among the pilots as well," Mr Bird said. Another topic Mr Bird raised was the sale of products of the West Indies Oil Refinery in Antigua, which is expected to resume operations later this year. Antigua wanted to sell some of the refineries products here, but Mr Bird said that certain arrangements Barbados had already made with Trinidad and Tobago would make it difficult for some of his islands' refined petroleum products to be sold in Barbados. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 2 Sep 81 p 1]

CALL FOR REGIONAL SUMMIT--Port-of-Spain Trinidad, Wednesday, (UPI)--A cabinet-appointed Trinidad and Tobago team has endorsed a call for an urgent Caribbean summit conference the SUNDAY GUARDIAN reported. The appeal, first recommended

by a group of Caribbean experts, was made by several member states of the eight-year-old Caribbean Common Market and Community. The experts were commissioned to prepare a strategy for the region during 1980 and their recommendations were submitted to regional governments earlier this year, the newspaper reported. The committee's interim report, stated that while the treaty establishing the Caribbean trade block provided the necessary framework for furthering the goals and objectives of Caribbean integration, there were several recommendations, issues and problems still outstanding. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 3 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025/06

WEBSTER BACK FROM UK, CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES TO BE MADE

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 3 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

THE VALLEY, Anguilla, Wednesday. (CANA) — Motion is soon to be introduced in the Anguilla Legislature seeking a formal request from Britain to amend the colony's present constitution, it has been announced here.

The announcement followed the return from London of a government delegation headed by Chief Minister Ronald Webster. The team was in Britain last week for constitutional and development aid talks with the conservative Thatcher government.

The delegation, which included the island's Social Affairs Minister Victor Banks, Financial Secretary Franklyn Connor, British Commissioner on the colony, Charles Godden and the government's Constitutional Adviser William Herbert, met with British Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Nicholas Ridley and Overseas Development Minister Neil Martin.

Arising out of the discussions, agreement was reached with Mr Ridley on proposed changes to be made to the island's constitution, details of which are to be announced soon. A motion will then be put before

Parliament to enact the changes.

In the area of development, British Minister Neil Martin promised that all the requests made by the delegation would be considered within the context of the five-year development plan which Anguilla was now preparing.

Improvement to the island's airport, better facilities at the local hospital and port, increased electricity generating capacity, water supplies and new schools were among proposals for development aid presented to the British government.

Martin also promised the Anguillans his government's willingness to assist the island's development based on the expansion of tourism.

British development aid to the tiny island for the fiscal year 1981-82 is expected to amount to over 900,000 pounds sterling, including an additional 60 000 pounds which was agreed during the talks in London.

Mr. Martin also welcomed the Anguilla governments' expressed intention of achieving a balanced budget as soon as possible and discussions are to be held to reach agreement on a timetable in the regard.

CSO: 3025/02

BRIEFS

EDF DAM LOAN--St John's Antigua, Tuesday (CANA)--Antigua which often suffers severe water shortages, has secured a \$50 million loan (one EC-dollar-37 cents US) to build a huge dam here, it was officially announced yesterday. Deputy Premier Lester Bird told the House of Representatives that the money would come from the European Development Fund (EDF). Mr Bird gave no details of the project. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 2 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025/06

MINISTER UNVEILS PLP PLANS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ROLE

Friendly Islands Commissions

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 27 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Text] GOVERNMENT announced plans Wednesday for local government in the Family Islands by creating Commissions out of existing Boards to consult residents before implementing local government.

In a communication to the House of Assembly yesterday, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Local Government George Smith also announced that there will be no Local Board elections this year to avoid undue delay of the commissions' work.

"Whatever we do, we must govern ourselves so that nothing would interfere with or destroy the national unity of our country and the solidarity of the Bahamian people," Mr Smith said.

He said the government has always been committed to extending to the people the opportunity to play a more responsible and meaningful role in the affairs of their local communities.

"However, it is the government's view that the manner and method by which this role is developed must come about only after the widest possible consultation with the people who would be directly involved in and affected by any decisions made with respect to the implementation of Local Government," he said.

He said that existing statutory boards would form the basis for Local Government Commissions and would be expected to come together to form a series of Local Government Commissions for this purpose only.

"These Commissions would be expected to hold meetings in their respective islands and the resident communities would be invited to submit views on the subject of Local Government under the guidance and direction of the Department of Local Government to ensure that every citizen has the opportunity to seriously consider, discuss and make an input for the implementation of Local Government," Mr Smith said.

He said the consultation should provide the appropriate form for determining the proper course of action that ought to be taken in this matter.

Mr Smith said that there are many factors that need to be taken into consideration ranging from the scattered nature of "our geography to marked differences in the economic and cultural life styles of Family Island residents.

"At the same time the

preservation of national unity must be regarded as the principal consideration in these deliberations," he said.

The Minister said the commissions would have to seriously consider whether administrative districts should be determined on a geographical basis and whether it is advisable for each Family Island to be treated as a separate unit within the one system.

He added that it might be necessary to examine data on the distribution of population in certain areas and other similar types of information when addressing these questions.

"No system of Local Government, however well planned, could operate without well defined financial procedures and policies," he said. "It might be that certain revenues now collected in the Family Islands should become the responsibility of the local authority either wholly or in part."

He said that funding Local Government authorities might therefore include a combination of direct subsidies from the central government and fees collected in certain pre-determined areas.

"These are some of the broad questions that the

commissions would have to consider," he said.

He said the commissions would also need to address the question of whether each district ought to have the power to raise revenue and noted that the power to raise revenue also carries the responsibility to manage the funds prudently.

"With regard to the specific areas to be administered by Local Government authorities, the commissions would be asked to consider which areas of responsibility, either in whole or in part, might effectively be administered locally such as local utilities and facilities, licensing, and any other areas that might

NEW DELHI, India — An overloaded bus plunged into a roadside ditch killing 40 passengers and injuring 50 others, the United News of India reported today.

The domestic news agency said the incident occurred Wednesday in the Siwan district of Bihar state, about 360 miles northwest of Calcutta.

appropriately be the responsibility of local authorities," the Minister said.

He added: "It might well be that as a result of the consultations, commissions would have to discuss other areas of specific concern to certain islands and the implications of those concerns to the respective local community."

Mr Smith said that related questions regarding the size of each authority and the method of ensuring full representation of all settlements or groups of settlements would also have to be taken into account.

"The government would also wish to be guided with regard to a time-table in the event that a recommendation for the transfer of additional responsibilities to the local authorities is forthcoming," he said.

He also said the government would wish to emphasise the

importance that it has attached to a speedy resolution of this matter and Local Government Commissions, therefore, "would be expected to complete their work within the next six months."

"Upon completion of the exercise, the government will examine the contributions with a view to arriving at a consensus of opinion on the matter at an early date," he said.

He said: "For the purpose of this exercise and to avoid any undue delay, the various Boards would remain as presently constituted. Accordingly, there would be no Local Board elections in 1981.

"The government is confident that the people would express their views in a responsible manner and, as in the past, the voice of the people would direct the path which this government would take."

FNM Platform Statement

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 22 Aug 81 p 1

[Excerpts]

A FREE National Movement Government will promptly extend local government to the Family Islands because it is confident they can manage their own affairs, the minority opposition party said in a platform statement today.

The FNM also charged that the ruling PLP Government "betrayed" the people by its failure to implement promised local government and has sought to impose "dictatorial control" across ever-widening aspects of the lives of Bahamians.

' The FNM said that in 1968, the PLP Government tabled in the House of Assembly a White Paper on Local Government promising to establish in certain Out Islands local authorities with clearly defined powers and responsibilities to act on matters affecting their own communities.

"After 13 years the PLP Government has not yet implemented the terms of this White Paper which solemnly promised the establishment of local government in the Family Islands," the FNM said.

According to the FNM, some of the responsibilities of local government authorities would include maintenance of local roads, water works, electrical plants and other facilities as well as licensing and the provision of certain health, educational and social services.

"We believe that many Family Island settlements would have water and electricity by now if the people had the authority to arrange for these things instead of waiting while the PLP Ministers play politics with their welfare," the FNM said.

NEW RESIGNATIONS HIT SDP; PARTY LEADER SOLOMON UNDER FIRE

Sands Remarks

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Excerpts]

CHARGING that the SDP is "an experiment that has failed," ex-senator Dr David Sands said he decided to support the FNM under the leadership of Kendal Isaacs because it has a better chance of defeating the PLP.

He said the only solution to the problem of a divided opposition is for the SDP to disband. He said this should be done because the FNM is the stronger of the two parties.

"If the PLP is returned to power in the next general election, I anticipate an economic and social crisis in the Bahamas," Dr Sands said at an afternoon press conference in his Centreville Medical Clinic.

"They have no long term plan to solve any of the nation's major problems. The

PLP has no vision for a future Bahamas. The nation is run on a day-to-day basis, from crisis-to-crisis...

"We must declare war on the PLP...This may be our last chance to change the government by a peaceful democratic process," he said.

"In view of the short time left before the next election and recognizing that the FNM is the stronger party, and that there is no major philosophical differences between both parties, the only solution to a divided opposition is for the SDP to disband," he said.

He called on Mr Solomon to give up the leadership of the SDP and run as an independent candidate.

Thompson 'Dismissal'

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Excerpt]

OFFICIAL Opposition Leader Norman Solomon said today a replacement will be named "within ten days" to fill the vacant Senate seat left by former Social Democratic Party Senator David Thompson, who, with Dr David Sands, was dismissed Monday by the SDP leader.

Mr Solomon, whose party

has been rocked by a number of resignations since the beginning of this year, has already named insurance salesman Basil Christie to take the seat vacated by Dr Sands, who unsuccessfully contested the Rock Sound bye-election last year for a seat in the House.

Thompson Explanation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Aug 81 pp 1, 8

[Article by Anthony Forbes]

[Excerpts]

THE DISMISSAL of Social Democratic Party senators Dr David Sands and lawyer David Thompson by opposition leader Norman Solomon "was intended to minimize the impact" of their resignation from the party, Mr Thompson said today.

Mr Thompson said both he and Dr Sands have been meeting with FNM officials, including party chairman Cecil Wallace Whitfield and leader Kendal Isaacs on a "personal basis."

Mr Thompson, who resigned from the SDP because of the "seemingly hopeless possibility" of a unification with the FNM, said he conferred with Dr Sands on August 10 on steps to be taken to join the FNM.

He said he and Dr Sands met after the cancellation of the party's parliamentary meeting. He said Mr Solomon was advised that unless a compromise was reached with the FNM, both he and Dr Sands would leave the party.

Branch Resignation

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 25 Aug 81 p 8

[Text]

ANOTHER member of the Social Democratic Party's Action Committee announced his resignation from the party today.

Miles Yallop, the SDP's prospective candidate for the St Agnes constituency said he was not prepared to sacrifice himself for an organisation that does not understand the Bahamian people.

Also resigning from the SDP were St Agnes branch chairman Ricardo Clarke, treasurer Anthony Johnson, assistant treasurer Wilbert Romer, secretary Tanya Yallop, and assistant secretary Willamae Crovak.

"There is no branch in St Agnes anymore," Yallop said.

Actually Yallop's resignation was handed in to SDP leader Norman Solomon last month, but he said he chose to make it public today because of the attitude Mr Solomon had taken with regard to the resignation from the party of Senator David Sands.

"This was something I predicted a long time ago," Yallop said with reference to Sands, "but Norman Solomon doesn't listen to anybody. It is obvious that Dave Sands had been trying (to make a contribution to the party). But

under a system with an individual who doesn't understand Bahamians his (Sands') contribution has been hindered."

Yallop saw Dr Sands and lawyer David Thompson, also resigned, as two of the best men in the SDP. He was annoyed that Mr Solomon had said that their leaving the party was of "no great loss."

"There is no freedom of speech in the SDP," Yallop said. "All the orders just come from one man - Norman Solomon. You can't say something that is obvious to the public outside and you can't say it in the SDP. I don't think the small man has any representation in there (SDP) at all."

"As far as the nomination for St Agnes is concerned, I am not going to accept it from Norman. I made certain proposals to him about St Agnes, but he was not prepared to go along with it. I can see from what is happening within the SDP that nothing is going to change. They have to first change the leadership if they want to accomplish anything."

Yallop did not say whether he would join any of the other political organisations.

Solomon Interview

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 26 Aug 81 p 1

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Excerpt]

EMBATTLED official Opposition leader Norman Solomon today had no intention of disbanding his Social Democratic Party and running as an independent candidate in the next general elections.

"It is not in my nature to roll over and play dead for either Mr Pindling (Prime Minister) or Mr Kendal Isaacs (Free National Movement leader) as Dr Sands would wish," said Mr Solomon, who lost two of his party's Senators Monday.

His remarks came during a telephone interview today in response to statements made by former Senator Dr David Sands.

"The SDP's existence and survival never has been in doubt and in my considered opinion never will be in doubt as long as there exists ... a body of public opinion which values highly a government, or if it is to be in the form of an opposition, then an opposition which is of honesty, integrity, courage and ability," he said.

If such a body exists, "the SDP will not only survive, but will grow," vowed Mr Solomon.

"Not being quite as dictatorial as some people believe," he said he proposed

that he step down as leader at a Council meeting August 15 "and it was absolutely unanimous that the Social Democratic Party not even for a moment seriously considered the proposition.

"Contrary to what Dr Sands may believe, the party will continue to exist if Norman Solomon goes."

And, in a separate matter, Mr Solomon said he would release copies of his correspondence to Mr Isaacs relative to proposed unity talks between the two parties if Mr Isaacs would release his letters of response.

Mr Isaacs declined to do so.

"There is this sort of cry, and moan and groan and appeal by people in the public that goes something like this - 'Why can't you people (meaning the FNM and SDP) get together,'" Mr Solomon said.

"I am fed up with this question because Mr Isaacs is the person to whom the question should be put. Not to Mr Solomon at all."

Mr Solomon said he initiated correspondence with Mr Isaacs on about April 4, suggesting that both leaders get together for unity talks.

To date, he said, he has received neither a sensible nor sincere answer from Mr Isaacs.

"Two people are well qualified, or have expressed the view that Mr Isaacs has not

responded as he should." Those people, he said, are former Senators Dr Sands and David Thompson who, along with other parliamentary colleagues, were shown the correspondence.

Mr Solomon added that he had yet to receive Mr Thompson's letter of resignation.

"Somebody ought to be asking Mr Isaacs why he has not been responding properly ... answers like he will give the matter serious thought and then weeks go by without hearing from him.

"It's time the general public began to learn some of the truth behind this opposition matter.

"We approached the FNM, through its leader, in sincerity and good faith."

CSO: 3025/03

BRIEFS

HOTEL UNION PULLOUT--It is official! The Bahamas Hotel Catering and Allied Workers Union has pulled out of the Trade Union Congress (TUC). TUC secretary-general A. Leonard Archer confirmed receipt of a letter from the hotel union confirming a press release the union issued earlier. "We have been notified by the (hotel) union that they have suspended their membership," Mr Archer said. "The TUC can't stop anybody from leaving," Archer said. "If the union decides to withdraw from the TUC there is nothing the TUC can do to stop them." Attempts were made to keep the hotel union in the TUC. "We have spoken to them," Mr Archer said. "We are waiting a response from them. The TUC would be very happy if they did remain." Mr Archer admitted that the loss of the hotel union would affect the TUC. "They are a large union and any large union which leaves an organisation weakens it. That wouldn't mean that the TUC wouldn't function." [Excerpts] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 24 Aug 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/06

BRIEFS

BWU POLITICAL RESOLUTION--The Barbados Workers Union (BWU) has passed a resolution aimed at establishing a committee with a view to participating in political activities. This was only one of four major resolutions submitted to the 40th Annual Delegates' Conference at the Labour College last Saturday. The meeting also called for an economic, political and social programme to be devised for the orderly development of the Labour Movement. The Rules and Regulations of the BWU allow for the furtherance of the lawful political objects affecting the interests of the members by representation in Parliament, Local Government bodies and all other such bodies. The delegates pointed out that the present politico-economic situation indicates the need for the trade union movement to be directly represented at the level of the highest decision-making bodies in this country. [Excerpt] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 2 Sep 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/07

ESCANDEL DISCUSSES PREPARATIONS FOR WFTU CONGRESS IN HAVANA

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 23 Aug 81, pp 28-29

[Interview with Jesus Escandel, member of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] Executive Secretariat and vice chairman of the National Preparatory Committee for the 10th WFTU Congress, by Jose Cazanas Reyes; date and place not given]

[Text] The 10th Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions will meet 10-15 February 1982 in Havana and will confront and respond to the great contemporary challenges in social, economic, political, cultural and international life which are facing the workers of our earthly planet.

Some of the main subjects to be treated by this great meeting of the world's unions are unemployment, which affects about 500 million human beings in the capitalist countries, the serious dangers of war, the malnutrition and hunger suffered by half the world's population and the policy being carried out by imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and fascism, as well as the struggle for peace and unity among the workers.

VERDE OLIVO interviewed Jesus Escandel, a member of the Executive Secretariat of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions and vice chairman of the National Preparatory Committee for the 10th WFTU Congress, concerning the preparations being made by the Cuban worker movement for the 10th WFTU Congress, their results, the workers organizations which will attend, the call by the 32d session of the General Council of the WFTU and other aspects.

"Among the preparations being developed by the Cuban union movement in salute to the 10th congress we can emphasize this year's emulation in our country, which is called the '10th World Trade Union Congress Emulation.'

"This activity," Escandel said, "in addition to giving impetus to our production plans, is at the same time a very important instrument for publicizing the congress and having the working masses of our country identify with that important event."

"The holding of this congress," he added, "has been received with much enthusiasm by the Cuban workers, and it is without a doubt the most significant contribution of our unions in honor of the success of the 10th congress."

Among the organizational and propaganda steps being taken by the Cuban unions are the following:

- The printing of tabloids with informational sketches about the WFTU to be read in the country's work centers.
- The preparation of a huge 'suitcase of friendship' containing gifts made possible by contributions from the CTC and the national unions, to be given to the delegates to the 10th congress.
- Preparation of a film documentary on the development of our union movement and the World Federation of Trade Unions and on the Congress itself.
- A contest sponsored by Radio Habana Cuba concerning the WFTU for the American area, with different material and moral inducements for the winners.
- An internal contest in the newspaper TRADAJODORES, organ of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, about the WFTU and its activities.

"The holding of the 10th World Trade Union Congress in Cuba," Jesus Escandell emphasized, "is of extraordinary importance not only for our country, but also for the workers and peoples of America and of the international trade union movement. With their example our people have won the admiration and solidarity of all the progressive forces of the world for their firm positions of principle against the actions and aggressive policy of the most powerful imperialist nation in the world."

"The selection of Cuba as the site of the 10th WFTU Congress," he added, "is an honor and at the same time a commitment for the Cuban workers and their union movement, who know how to handle such a great responsibility."

Asked how many organizations will be represented at this congress, the member of the Executive Secretariat of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions replied:

"Although at this time we cannot say exactly how many, we can indeed assure you that more than 300 union organizations, both affiliated with the WFTU and nonaffiliated, will participate in the 10th congress."

The WFTU includes some 80 organizations in 70 countries. It was founded in October 1945. The Cuban CTC is one of the founding members. Lazaro Pena, the beloved leader of the Cuban working class, headed the Cuban delegation to the organizational and later when the structure of the workers organization was changed at the seventh congress, he became a member of the Bureau of the WFTU, a post he held until his death.

"The WFTU", Escandell said, "is the most important international organization in existence, because in the course of the 36 years since its founding it has been a firm and unwavering standard-bearer in defense of the interests and hopes of the workers of all continents.

"The WFTU has continued to adapt its actions to the new conditions of struggle determined by the play of social events, without altering in the least the principles which led to its formation. It has confronted decisively the offensive of the monopolies against the rights and gains of the working class, supports the latter's strikes and claims, organizes solidarity campaigns and contributes moral and material support."

The other two world labor organizations are the World Confederation of Labor (WCL) and the International Condeederation of Free Trade Unions (IFCTU), founded in 1920,

continues to exist under the name of the WCLA. The World Confederation of Labor is closely linked, ideologically and historically, to Catholicism and more properly to Christian unionism. It denies the principles of class struggle and defines itself as a reform-oriented international union organization.

The ICFTU is a social democratic and reform-oriented union organization. This organization was the result of a split from the rank and file of the WFTU by the union reform movement and represented a step backward in the development of the international trade union movement. The ICFTU was founded in 1949 in London. Its leaders have announced its goals of isolating the unions of the USSR and the other socialist countries, taking the union movement down the path of reform and slowing down the development of the revolutionary union movement in the recently liberated countries which have achieved their national independence, as well as in those still struggling for liberation.

After clearly describing the three most important world union organizations, Jesus Escandel then outlined briefly the agenda for the 10th WFTU Congress, supreme organ of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

"The basic questions to be discussed at the 10th World Union Congress in February 1982 in Havana have been established in accordance with the call of the 32d Session of the WFTU General Council held in Budapest 1-3 July 1981. The 10th congress will try to answer the problem of the economic crisis, the questions of war and peace, the problems of underdevelopment, illiteracy, the struggle against imperialism, the transnational enterprises, the unity of the international trade union movement and other points of importance for the working classes of the world.

Escandel recently returned from Budapest, Hungary, where he participated in the 32d Session of the WFTU General Council as representative of the Cuban union movement. There he reported on the progress of the preparations being made by Cuba for the 10th congress. Evaluating the meeting's activity, he said: "It was very positive in encouraging our preparations for the 10th congress. Most of the speakers, who came from all continents, participated in the general discussion and expressed their support for Cuba as the site of the congress. The 32d session of the Council received several suggestions for improving publicity about the 10th congress and the encouragement of participation therein. It was suggested that unit committees of sponsorship for the congress be created in each country. We estimate that this General Council, the most important organ of the WFTU after the Congress itself, with its central theme of the 10th congress, has already meant great publicity for the congress.

"In addition," Escandel said in conclusion, "the documents adopted, all of them unanimously, have a positive content and are a good contribution to the achievement of a formidable climate on the eve of the 10th World Trade Union Congress. The 32d Session of the General Council approved a call inviting participation in the 10th congress, among other things."

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CSO: 3010/1804

COLONEL DISCUSSES FAR PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 19 Jul pp 38-39

[Interview with Col Armando Saucedo Yero, member of the Central Committee, first deputy chief of the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] Central Political Directorate and chairman of the FAR Special Election Committee; by Jorge Luis Blanco; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] What has been the experience of the Revolutionary Armed Forces with the election of delegates in the FAR special electoral districts?

[Answer] Since the local organs of the People's Government were established in Matanzas Province in June 1974, members of the FAR who lived or were stationed in that province have taken an active and outstanding part.

The FAR special electoral districts were first created at that time so that the comrades who resided permanently in the military units might participate in the election process. As is known, the rest of the military voted in their places of residence, the result being that many men and women of the FAR were elected delegates in their respective regular districts, as one more example of the respect, affection and confidence the people have for and in the members of the FAR.

When in 1976 the formation of the organs of the People's Government was extended to the entire country, fulfilling the recommendations of the first Party Congress, the same thing that happened in Matanzas with the FAR members was repeated in all provinces in the country and in the special municipality of Isle of Youth. It can be affirmed that our experiences in the FAR with the electoral processes have been positive; on every occasion the members of the FAR have participated in an organized, conscious and enthusiastic manner; worthy comrades have been elected in the regular as well as the special districts. In the latter, elections have always been important events which have helped to mobilize the personnel toward fulfillment of the missions and tasks planned, especially those related to the improvement of combat readiness and political training.

I want to emphasize, however, that we still have a long way to go both with respect to the organization and holding of the elections and in everything concerning the functioning and results of the steps being taken by the delegates from the special electoral districts. There are still many aspects of the work which need to be improved, and in general it is necessary to continue learning and acquiring experience

about that difficult sphere of popular government. The Revolutionary Armed Forces are young, and within that body the exercise of this right given it by the constitution is even younger. There are modest achievements which only serve as a base for continuing to advance in the improvement and further development of the task.

Another experience we have had in the FAR is that at election time we have always been able to count on the full support of the chiefs, agencies and political workers, the party organizations and the UJC [Union of Young Communists], who have helped, by their work, to guarantee the success of the project.

[Question] What measures are being taken in the FAR to guarantee the success of the upcoming elections?

[Answer] Our work is aimed principally in two directions: the organizational aspect and the work of propaganda and agitation.

On the organizational level we can say that the FAR Special Electoral Committee has been functioning since its designation by the National Electoral Commission. It is charged with organizing and directing the electoral process in the special FAR electoral districts in close coordination with the electoral committees in the provinces and municipalities since, as everyone knows, the same steps and procedures are taken in the FAR as are established for the entire country and within the same time periods.

The number of FAR special electoral districts to be created has already been determined, while respecting the principle of territoriality. Now we are working on defining the location of the polling places, so that we may bring the polling place to the voter and thus avoid unnecessary transportation.

Later we will have to hold assemblies to nominate candidates, publish the photos and biographies, equip the polling places and train the comrades who will work at the election tables and hold, throughout the country, the first election round on 11 October and the second on 18 October.

Internally, the minister of FAR has ordered that in the various commands election committees be created which will contribute all support necessary for the success of this task.

The other aspect, that of agitation and propaganda, will be directed to all members of the FAR, including both those who vote in the special election districts and those who do so in regular districts. With this project we hope to make our contribution to the task of informing the entire country, so that all our personnel participating in the election process will be more deeply aware of the importance and significance thereof.

But in addition, we hope that in the heat of the election process the comrades will learn more deeply about the structure and functions of the organs of the People's Government in each district, with emphasis on the functions of the delegates, and about the right of the voters to bring up any doubt, complaint, criticism or suggestion concerning the activities of the local governments, so that these can be discussed and resolved and, if this is not possible, that the voter in question may

be given a well thought out and convincing explanation. Finally, we hope to have all the personnel deepen their knowledge of the principles which rule a socialist democracy.

[Question] Our constitution, unlike those of the rest of the countries of America, gives the military the right to vote and to be elected to office. What can you tell us about this?

[Answer] Bourgeois constitutions, in denying the military the right to vote, seek to present the armed forces as apolitical entities supposedly charged with maintaining justice and order, enforcing compliance with laws, etc., or in other works, present the military as an impartial body above the social classes. It is no' worth our while to stop to refute the falseness of those ideas. Suffice it to recall Chile under Pinochet.

For that reason when our constitution and the electoral law give members of the armed forces the right to vote and to be elected to office, they are doing no more than confirming the class character of our armed forces, an integral part of the working people, their shield of steel, and proclaiming that under socialist conditions the military is indeed political and does serve on the side of the just and noble cause of building the revolution. For that reason from now on until the date the elections are held we will see the military in the nominating assemblies and studying the biographies of the candidates proposed, so that they may vote for the one who has the most merit and attributes, and on 11 October the uniformed military will surely be the first to arrive at the polling places, whether in their units or in their residential localities, so that with their free and secret ballots they may elect the best and most capable of carrying on the affairs of local government.

[Question] Do you wish to add anything?

[Answer] I think it would be a good idea to offer the pages of VERDE OLIVO to its readers as a forum to answer their questions about the election process and the general functioning of the organs of the People's Government.

If the publication agrees they can create a sort of section which will discuss these important subjects periodically until the elections are held.

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CSO: 3010/1804

PCC HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT DESCRIBED

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 23 Aug 81 pp 38-40

[Article by Lt Col Cristobal Marrero Leon]

[Text] Looking back over the historic path covered by the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC), one can see the stages in its formation, growth and strengthening to the present time, when it constitutes a powerful united force which has multiplied in the process of growth and boasts more than 400,000 members. In this period, our party has consolidated the organic stability of its ranks and has constantly enriched the forms and methods of its activity.

In undergoing these quantitative and qualitative changes, the PCC has maintained the class nature which makes it stand out as the political vanguard of the Cuban workers' class, and has retained and strengthened its revolutionary spirit, its intransigence when it comes to principle, the purity of its ranks and internationalism, as the qualities inherent in it.

The path the party has covered in its development clearly shows that the progress achieved is not the result of accidental factors, but that a strictly objective process is involved.

The process of the formation of the PCC crystallized in the course of long years of struggle. Its development followed a rising line which brilliantly revealed the interconnection existing between the political and ideological physiognomy of the revolutionary vanguard, on the one hand, and the concrete historical conditions under which it had to act and the tasks which confronted it at each stage, on the other. In other words, its development came about in accordance with the demands of each new historic stage and with the objective laws which are inherent in it as a form of sociopolitical organization.

This experience has revealed new paths for the formation of the Marxist-Leninist vanguard and a new potential for the anti-imperialist and socialist revolution in the third stage of the general crisis in capitalism.

The process of our party's formation and its crystallization as a leading and guiding force for Cuban society occurred in specific fashion. However, against the background of the particular aspects inherent in this process, the correctness and the vital force of the Marxist-Leninist doctrine on the communist vanguard became more plainly visible.

The statutes of the PCC which were approved at its first congress state: "This party was formed from union and concept, from unity and doctrine, in the crucible of a revolutionary process."¹

Faithfulness to Marxist-Leninist doctrine, its creative development and its consistent application were the premises of the triumph of the Cuban revolution and of the entire process of the formation of its political vanguard. Fidel Castro and the main leaders of the 26 July Revolutionary Movement were capable of conceiving a strategy and tactics for the rebel struggle which led to the 1 January victory, because they had sufficient ideological and political maturity, as well as mastery of the dialectics governing the general laws and their specific application. Thus equipped they were able to adopt decisions consistent with the objective means of social development and to open up new horizons for revolutionary energy and the struggle of the workers' class and the people's masses.

In this connection our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, said: "The Marxist concept of class struggle allowed us to see clearly, in the midst of the complex situation, in the midst of the complexity of the world, of society the country in which we live. No other theory, no other political doctrine, no other philosophy would have allowed us to begin to understand even the society in which we live.

"The Leninist principle set forth in 'The State and the Revolution' made us see absolutely clearly what a revolution consisted of, not only basically, but in form: the role of the party, the role of the masses, the role of the state in the revolution."²

In the course of the rebel struggle, unity of action among the revolutionary forces developed. The very development of the struggle was such that the need to unite efforts emerged as an indispensable premise of triumph, and coordination of actions imposed itself in practice as a continuing factor in the development of the revolutionary process.

The mutual relations which the 26 July Revolutionary Movement, Popular Socialist Party and 13 March Revolutionary Directorate consciously pursued had as their objective basis the level of coincidence found in the basic guidelines of a strategic nature which the three organizations had marked out for the stage of struggle for national liberation.

When we speak of strategy, we are referring to the general political line for a whole historical stage, oriented toward accomplishing the basic tasks of that stage.

The three revolutionary organizations had conceived the immediate goal of struggle in clear fashion and with similar viewpoints: national liberation. In addition, it was perfectly clear to all that the main objective in this stage was the defeat of Batista's pro-imperialist military dictatorship. As to allies, under the specific conditions of Cuba, and for a consistently revolutionary struggle, they could only be found among the most humble and exploited classes, as well as in the radical sectors of the petit bourgeoisie.

As will be understood, the coincidence on the fundamentals of the strategic line of the revolutionary organizations constituted the objective basis of all united effort. The differences on tactics and forms of struggle were the basic factor hindering the potential for achieving unity of action among the revolutionary organizations in the course of the rebel struggle.

The very dialectics of the revolutionary process gave rise to lessons, thanks to which the wise path was gradually found. The pressure of the course of events itself made it necessary to pursue that path, and saw to it that mistaken reasoning was discarded, thus eliminating the effects of the different viewpoints as to tactics. At the same time, it made it possible for differences to be overcome and unity of action to be achieved, a decisive factor in the revolutionary triumph of 1 January 1959.

The unity of action in the revolutionary forces which developed in the course of the armed struggle and were strengthened in the course of the democratic phase of the revolution, under the direct influence of revolutionary practice in the struggle for the achievement of profound socioeconomic and political changes, was the crucible in which the conditions necessary for the unification of the revolutionary organizations were finally forged. As the first secretary of our party, Comrade Fidel Castro, stated: "Throughout the revolutionary process, the conditions which made possible this structuring of all the revolutionary forces which exist today, and this organic unity of the revolutionary forces, were maturing. In other words, this union was forged, precisely, and had inevitably to be forged through the revolutionary process."³ (Author's underlining.)

In the midst of the contradictory environment inherent in any revolutionary process, in the stage of profound changes preparing the ground for the transition to socialism, the sustained efforts of the main leaders of the revolutionary organizations with a view to the consistent maintenance of unity played an extraordinary role.

As the program platform of the PCC approved at its first congress stated: "The unity of all the revolutionary sectors and leaders and between the leaders and the people, was a decisive factor in the strengthening and solidity of the process of our revolution. It was achieved and constantly maintained thanks to the rallying capacity of the highest leader of the revolution, Comrade Fidel Castro, who has waged a constant struggle to safeguard and develop that unity."⁴

In the course of the democratic phase of the revolution, the conditions essential for the unification of revolutionary organizations were created. One of them was the unity achieved in the trade union and youth movements, among women and other mass and social organizations.

The increase in the coordination and unity of the mass and social organization, and in particular those with greatest collective force created by the revolution, were the main supports making it possible to achieve these overwhelming successes under such complex circumstances. This made it possible to resolve problems and to carry out tasks which seemed impossible given the time and the conditions under which they were undertaken. At the same time, an important condition for the unification of the revolutionary organizations was provided.

The objective mutual relations within the struggle of the basic revolutionary forces was consolidated during the very process of the rebel struggle. The unification of the revolutionary organizations was the result of an understanding of the mutual relations, of the community of interests, of the need for unity as such and the consistent struggle for its consolidation.

At the same time, the increase in the coordination and unity of the leadership and in all spheres represented an objectively necessary stage, a condition for succeeding in forming the essential foundations of ideological unity without which it was not possible to launch the creation of a single party which would group within its ranks all the truly revolutionary forces, on the basis of Marxism-Leninism.

When the revolution entered into the socialist stage and made the need to create a Marxist-Leninist party more forcefully apparent, the real foundations for it were prepared.

As our commander in chief said: "The socialist nature of our revolution was proclaimed at the Bay of Pigs. Our party was forged in practice at the Bay of Pigs.... Therefore 16 April is regarded as the date of the proclamation of the socialist nature of our revolution, the date of the founding of our party."⁵

The workers' class, the battalions of the workers' militia, participated actively at the Bay of Pigs, playing an important and decisive role along with the rebel army. The workers' class, in close alliance with the political forces of the socialist revolution formed in the very heart of the political army of the democratic revolution fought for the dictatorship of the proletariat, for the socialist revolution. This double military and ideological victory forged our party.

No political movement which claims to be truly revolutionary can avoid the problem of how to organize in order to put its ideas in practice. Marxism-Leninism, in addition to providing the ideology and the program of struggle for the new society, had defined the nature of the organizational weapon capable of clearing the path for this program.

In response to those who believe that the party should begin with the work of organization, Lenin asked: "And isn't it the other way around that one should reason, my 'literate and practical' comrades? Think carefully: is it possible to unite the work of organization if the understanding of the interests and the tasks of the class is not united? If you think about it, you will become persuaded that it is not possible."⁶

The revolutionary theory of Marx and Engels which eliminated the path of the future preceded the upsurge of the workers' vanguard. Generally, the Marxist-Leninist party has begun to be formed in each country on the basis of a nucleus of individuals united by recognition of the revolutionary theory and the need to put it into practice.

In Cuba, the process had already covered that path during the formation of the first Marxist-Leninist party founded in 1925. In the formation of the new revolutionary vanguard, in view of the expansion of its ranks with the unification of the revolutionary organizations, the process was to be continued in essence. It could not be a short one. It had necessarily to include as its elements gradual advance and the constant perfecting of the forms and methods of its structure and activity.

Life has demonstrated that the formation and development of the Communist Party of Cuba was not a spontaneous process, but one consciously directed on the basis of a knowledge of the action of the objective laws and the concrete historical conditions. At each stage, the new Marxist-Leninist vanguard rose to a higher level, which enabled it to manifest more fully the effect of the objective regularity inherent

in it. It dialectically rejected everything which blocked its advance and guaranteed the growth of the role of the party and the enrichment of the content of its work.

In the course of the rebel struggle, unity of action among the revolutionary forces was formed as the premise of all united effort. During the democratic stage of the revolution, the conditions necessary for the unification of the revolutionary organizations were created. With the entry into the stage of socialist construction the formation of the party was begun, and in 1965 it reached a high point with the establishment of the Central Committee. The party, created on the basis of Marxist-Leninist principles, adopted "Communist Party of Cuba" as its name.

"The Communist Party of Cuba," as Fidel Castro said, "is the product of the revolution itself. The revolution gave the world the party, and now the party carries the revolution forward. The party is its vehicle par excellence and the guarantee of its historical continuity."⁷

The wealth of the historical experience revealed by the specific aspects of the path of the formation of the Communist Party of Cuba makes it possible to assess the strength and the worldwide scope the Leninist doctrine on the party has today.

FOOTNOTES

1. Statutes of the PCC, Politica Publishing House, Havana, 1981, p 2.
2. GRANMA, 23 June 1972, p 5.
3. Castro, Fidel, "The United Party of the Socialist Revolution," in the book "The Marxist-Leninist Party," published by the leadership of the PURSC [United Party of the Socialist Revolution of Cuba], Havana, 1963, p 98.
4. Program Platform of the PCC, published by the DOR [Revolutionary Orientation Department] of the CC of the PCC, Havana, 1967, p 47.
5. Castro, Fidel, address on the 20th anniversary of the Bay of Pigs victory, GRANMA, 21 April 1981, p 2.
6. Lenin, V. I., "Complete Works," Vol 15, p 178.
7. Statutes of the PCC, Politica Publishing House, Havana, 1981, p 2.

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RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AT MILITARY CLUBS DESCRIBED

Western Army Noncommissioned Club

Havana VERDO OLIVO in Spanish 9 Aug 81 pp 34-37

[Article by Jorge Luis Blanco]

[Text] Formidable! This is the only adjective to describe the Sergeants and Soldiers Club of a motorized infantry unit in the Western Army which VERDE OLIVO reporters visited.

When the acting chief for political work welcomed us at the unit, he immediately began to speak in words full of admiration about the installation going up today, as a concrete example of the improvement of living conditions seen in the unit in recent years.

And there are in fact reasons for this entire military collective to feel satisfied with the project going up today for the benefit of the combatants, who are making every effort to be better trained with every passing day for the defense of the socialist fatherland.

A tour of the zone where the installation is located not only reveals the functional nature of each of the premises, but also answers the visitor's natural and most important question about the enthusiasm felt by each of the sergeants and soldiers about the new advantage being provided to them with the club.

The building occupies an area of approximately 500 square meters, and its construction, by the prefabricated system, was carried out by specialists from the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] Construction and Housing Office, and soldiers from the unit itself.

It has the areas needed for the pursuit of all of the combatants' political, cultural and recreational activities.

They, the noncommissioned officers and soldiers, talk with pleasure about their club, which apart from offering healthy periods of recreation will contribute to strengthening military discipline and to political-ideological development.

Some have now discovered their aptitude for drawing and one can often see soldiers, brushes in hand, at work in the art appreciation room. Others prefer to visit the

discotheque to enjoy the boleros by Manolo del Valle or the fine music of the Irakere. There are also those who prefer the reading of spy novels or who sit at the tables at one of the neverending chess games.

And yes, there is also a dance floor, where the noncommissioned officers and soldiers test their skills to delightful Cuban rhythms. Just a few weeks ago a group of female students from the Ciudad Libertad technological establishment were invited guests, and the members of the unit say they are sure that that day they outdid the scheduled program "For Dancing."

The large and comfortable theater which is a part of this complex has witnessed the performances of the performing group of the FAR on more than one occasion, providing a varied repertoire to delight the men who are making a daily effort to improve the military training, and who enjoy periods of merited entertainment during activities of this kind.

In this same facility, films to satisfy the most demanding tastes are shown four times a week. Also musical and theatrical groups from the unit perform frequently on its stage.

But let us yield the floor to the graphic images, which in the final analysis will show the readers the reason for the new happiness felt by the noncommissioned officers and soldiers in this motorized infantry unit in the Eastern Army.

Central Army Officers Club

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 23 Aug 81 pp 34-37

[Article by Mario Rodriguez: "Central Army Officers Have a Place by the Beach"]

[Text] Near Matanzas Bay, at a site known as Cabarroca, the Central Army Officers Club is going up in a monumental effort.

This colorful and beautiful site is without a doubt one in which time passes unnoticed in healthy amusement and recreation.

Despite the fact that not all of the facilities have been built, the officers club has offered a wide range of choices since the month of April.

Currently some visitors prefer to visit the curious caves, a whim of nature which shelter bathers or those who simply want to delight in the ingenious architecture of Mother Nature.

Others, young people above all, can spend all of their time in swimming, miniature golf, basketball or volleyball, while for the very young the doors to the children's park with all its distractions are open.

But this is not all. The modern cafeteria with its balcony overlooking the bay provides customers with a wide choice of refreshments and meals, apart from the enjoyment of an impressive landscape. And what can be said about the bar where at any time one can enjoy a cooling beer or any one of the wide range of our favorite cocktails?

In a word, the effort of all has made it possible for the Central Army officers and their families to enjoy a beautiful and welcoming environment now.

Inception of an Idea

The building of the Central Army Officers Club became a priority task from the very first, taking shape through a solemn pledge made by the entire collective in salute to the second party congress and the 20th anniversary of the military institution which was celebrated last 4 April.

The undertaking was at the same time a need more than a necessity, since its implementation would require the contribution of innumerable factors.

This of course did not dampen enthusiasm, which in the long run triumphed over all the difficulties. And so it was that in the month of April 1980, the first steps toward implementing goals set were taken.

One of the basic requirements to be considered at the beginning was precisely the choice of a site which thanks both to its location and its natural characteristics would meet the requirements which had been established for the club.

Thus after a number of studies and analyses undertaken in the field, a definitive decision was reached: Cabarroca was the best qualified site.

This was justified first of all by the beauty of the landscape and on the other hand by its proximity to the military community where many of the officers live with their families.

Thanks to tenacious work and long productive days, often ending late at night, the topography at Cabarroca changed substantially.

The sight and aroma of dogstooth violet disappeared from the scene and in its place were planted the beautiful framboyan, linden, oak and cocoa palm trees and wild grape suited to the site.

Along with the refurbishing of the green areas, the modernization of the two buildings, which because of their rather ancient construction would certainly be an attraction to visitors, was undertaken. One of them would be the central building which would house the administrative offices, while in the other the present cafeteria, capable of serving 80 customers simultaneously, took shape.

Later the bar, the lounging areas, the dance floor, stage, children's park and athletic areas were built, along with the parking lot, access road and paths for pedestrians.

And so it was that by the month of December the Central Army Officers Club could open its doors for the festive celebrations in connection with the 22nd anniversary of the triumph of the revolution.

Then, after a brief lapse of time, it was possible to undertake such other major projects as the jetty which descends to the beach and the access stairway to it, along with the building of the control point.

And by the month of April, coinciding with the 20th anniversary of the founding of the army, the officers club was ready to receive its first visitors.

Some of the Prospects

Lt Col Pablo Chau Jardines, in charge of the club, is one of those directly involved in all of the efforts put forth.

Seated now in his little office with pointer in hand, he was prepared to give us an overview of what the army officers club will be in the future.

"This construction," he told us, "has been the product of our own efforts, although naturally we have had the enthusiastic cooperation of the provincial organs of people's government, the party, the MICON [Ministry of Construction] and the social and mass organizations."

"The bulk of the work was done between October and April, with excellent participation by the personnel.

"Naturally, we must add to this the decisive contribution of our officers, who came with their families to engage in real productive marathons wherever necessary. This allowed us to achieve the planned process goals by the scheduled date."

Lieutenant Colonel Chau gave half a turn and, gazing at the map hanging on the wall, added:

"All of the areas and facilities you have visited account for only about 50 percent of what we actually plan to build.

"When we have finished, the officers club will in fact have become a recreational complex.

"By then the restaurant, the motel-type lodgings, the olympic swimming pool, the bowling alley and the sociocultural buildings will be providing service, and also a number of individual cabins will have been completed.

"In other words, we will have every possibility of offering much broader and better service.

"However, as you have already been able to see, we have established as a simultaneous goal the work of construction with the offering of services to the clients who are coming in greater numbers every day."

Later, Lieutenant Colonel Chau explained to us that in accordance with this policy, the officers club is already offering a series of activities for adults and children.

For example, activities involving puppets, clowns and the street plans themselves are already finding wide favor with the children, while the Saturday and Sunday afternoon dances are a real attraction for adults and adolescents.

Currently the club is increasingly becoming the favorite place for officers and their families to spend their vacations and enjoy their free hours.

"This, if you will," the officer added, "is the best stimulus for our work. See how our effort is turning into concrete results!"

"Every one of us who has worked without sparing either time or effort so that our institution will bear its best fruit feels proud to see how all of what was one day a mere suggestion has become a reality."

An Opinion

After a brief tour of the various areas we decided to visit the cafeteria.

We settled at one of the tables located in an angle of the balcony, with supports of precious woods through which one could glimpse the horizon blending with the deep blue sea, and farther over, the coastline embellished with slender pines, wending its way toward the east in search of Playa Azul.

We were not the only customers that Saturday evening. A number of families were engaged in animated talk. Finally we chose one and after presenting ourselves, found ourselves prepared to engage in a brief dialogue with one of the customers.

"Your name, please."

"Capt Modesto Hernandez Noguel."

"How do you feel here at the officers club?"

"Well, you can imagine, this is a marvel to which we have always aspired--a place where we can come with our families and spend a little leisure time.

"Obviously, not all of the buildings are completed, but this does not prevent either us or our children from enjoying it fully.

"And believe me, it is a great help, above in this season of the children's school vacation."

"Do you come often?"

"Whenever I have a chance, and particularly on Saturdays and Sundays."

Ana, Modesto's wife, was smiling. We could see that she, too, had something to say, and so we immediately gave her an opportunity.

"I want to tell you that just today we are celebrating an important event. Within a few days we will be moving to the community where we have been given a comfortable apartment.

"Therefore, my husband and I decided to come to the officers club today. This solves our problem--the children enjoy themselves as they wish, while we too get our bit of recreation."

We had just finished our chat when three beautiful girls--Isel, Sonia and Osmana, the youngest in the family, returned from the children's area.

For Capt Modesto Hernandez and for the other officials of the Central Army, this club broadens their recreational opportunities. Finally, an old dream has been realized.

IMPORTANCE OF AFRICAN CULTURAL LINKS NOTED

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish Jul 81 p 43

[Article by Raul Rivero: "I have Seen These Men Elsewhere"]

[Text] Africa was a wild dream. An untamed landscape, unusual, almost bordering on fiction, where veteran white explorers imposed the joys of civilization with pen and fire.

Africa was a bit of the world in which Tarzan and his family (Jane and Boy) had been trapped for the delight and thrills of thousands of children, and to make Edgar Rice a little richer--Edgar Rice who put the embodiment of life in the jungle on the pages of the Sunday papers.

In the movies, Africa appeared primitive and brutal, overflowing with its ferocious sons, its unbelievable animals, and its enormous rippling killer rivers.

That land, those people who are so closely related to us, so close in suffering and in the flesh, and even--we discovered later--in hope, reached Latin America in the distorted, sick, and criminal image offered us by the white explorers and their masters.

In recent years, Cuban publishers have made progress toward eliminating the gap between Latin America and Africa created by the mass media in the United States and other countries.

Thus the names of great African writers suddenly began to be familiar in book-stores, the specialized press and the private libraries of Cuban readers.

The name that became most popular during the 1970's was Amos Tutuola, who enthralled the public with his "Bebedor de vino de palma" [Palm Wine Drinker].

That acceptance was the result of the author's technical mastery, and in another element suggested in the title of this note, Tutuola entwines legends and traditions of the Yoruba, important stock in the Cuban nationality.

Around the end of 1968 a selection of poems also appeared: "Poesia anonimal africana" [Anonymous African Poetry]. This book is in its second printing.

Another key step taken by the Ministry of Culture was the publication of an anthology: "Narrativa Africana" [African Narrative], a collection of works by 43 authors from 13 African countries, translated into Spanish for the first time.

In 1975, Art and Literature Publications created an editorial section specializing in African authors. In the first 5 years, they have given the Cuban reader 21 volumes of 60 authors from Algeria, Nigeria, Kenya, Sierra Leon, Ghana, Uganda, Senegal, Benin, the Congo, and Cameroon.

Moreover, two works by Alex La Guma, a prestigious South African writer, have recently gone on sale. His works express a denunciation of the injustice the apartheid regime has imposed upon that country.

There is another African country that has received special attention as a result of the dissemination of its literature in Spanish: Angola. Besides a selection of the poems of the late president Agostinho Neto, "La sagrada esperanza," books by Manuel Rui, Luandino Vierira, and most recently and very successfully, Castro Soromenho with his "Tierra Muerta," a true classic of Angolan letters, have been published.

Everyone in our area is now familiar with the names of Henri Lopes, Kateb Yacin, Mongo Beti, Fernandin Oyono, Usman Sembene, Chinua Achebe, Thomas Mofolo, Costa Andrade, T.M. Aluko, and Ngugi wa Thiong'o, among others.

Very soon the first volume of "Diwan Africano," an anthology of African poetry to be published in four volumes, will be in the bookstores.

Thanks to this work by men of these peoples, we have learned a little more about an important area of our origin: he who in chains crossed the sea in dramatic galley ships, as the poet said.

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NEW CANE PLANTING METHOD BEING USED IN VILLA CLARA

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 28 Aug 81 p 4

[Article by Eraclides Barrero]

[Text] Here in the Camacho district of the Jose Maria Perez Sugar Cane Enterprise in Villa Clara are the pioneers in the planting of cane in raised furrows, an innovative system whose advantages were emphasized by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at the closing session of the 16th Congress of the Sugar Cane Union.

Fidel said: "I talked with Comrade Rodriguez, first secretary of the party, and asked him exactly how many caballerias [1 caballeria = 33.2 acres] Villa Clara had lost and he said that 38 out of the 2,554 caballerias planted in cane had been lost. In other words, they lost less than 2 percent of the cane planted. Less than 2 percent, when a loss of 10 percent was normal!" He added: "What helped the most in Las Villas was planting the cane in raised furrows."

Since that time, planting in raised furrows or beds has become a nationwide practice, following Fidel's instructions: "We must not fail to apply the method wherever we have low land."

Why should it be used in the lowlands? What is this type of planting after all? Many questions arise with the use of this innovative method and in order to answer them, we went to the precise spot where the method was used extensively in our country for the first time.

One definition of planting in raised beds could be: a method consisting of planting the cane in a raised row in order to protect it from the effects of water in areas of very low land or of low filtration, where excessive rainwater drowns the new plants.

The difference between the traditional method and planting in raised beds is that in the first case, the cane is planted in the furrow itself and in the second, it is planted in the ridge of earth rising on both sides of the furrow.

Planting in raised beds is not a Villa Clara or even Cuban invention. It has been used previously in other countries and the recommendation of experts that it be used in our country dates back many years.

Because of the urgent need for a sugar cane recovery, following the harmful effects of the Barbados 4362 variety, its massive application was decided upon in our country.

"The first time we planted in raised beds was in 1977," said Rene Morales Sanchez, director of the Jose Maria Perez enterprise, "when we planted 8 caballerias. Despite the fact that we obtained good results, it was not until 1979 that it was done extensively."

It began here, just as it could have begun on any other plantation, he modestly says, "but we are proud to be the pioneers."

In the spring planting, the Jose Maria Perez enterprise put in 348.4 caballerias, 236 using the new method. It goes without saying that there are no losses; the word has been struck from the vocabulary of the Villa Clara cane growers. If it is necessary to replant at all, the amount is so small that it does not bear mentioning.

The number of shoots per field corresponds exactly to the number planted and yields have increased steadily with the use of the new techniques.

The fact is that not only is the raised bed method used, but rather, it is combined with deep cultivation.

These two productive techniques together make a perfect symbiosis and furthermore, there is no contradiction between them. They complement one another perfectly.

Deep cultivation means plowing very deeply in order to foster the root growth of the plant and help it to better absorb the nutrients in the soil. After plowing, one has but to make the raised furrows and then plant the cane.

It was not easy for the Jose Maria Perez enterprise to recover from the effects of rust because 60 percent of its plantations were the Barbados 4362 variety, the one affected. The enterprise paid dearly for violating what is actually an old rule: not having over 40 percent of the entire cane area planted with one variety.

In 1979, the plantations were practically decimated and this year, they produced only 24 million arrobas [1 arroba = 25 pounds] of cane. In 1980, the harvest level began to rise and reached 37 million arrobas. In 1981, there was a considerable leap, to 50 million.

In the last harvest, the yield was 62,000 arrobas per caballeria and this year, according to the July estimate, with the rising trend, 70,200 arrobas per caballeria will be harvested.

According to the 5-year plan, the Jose Maria Perez enterprise should have some 82,000 arrobas per caballeria by 1985. With the annual increase, which now amounts to some 10,000 arrobas, it is almost certain that that figure will be reached much sooner.

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ANAP LEADERS IN VARIOUS PROVINCES DISCUSS TASKS

Agricultural Production in Granma

Havana ANAP in Spanish Jun 81 pp 14-15

[Interview with Luis Perez Verdecia, ANAP president in Granma Province, by Chongo Leiva; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] What is the province's strategy to undertake all the planned tasks for the Sixth Peasant Congress?

[Answer] We are doing innumerable concrete tasks in the province to salute the Sixth ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers] Congress and to make our province the site for the 26 July 1982 celebration, in answer to the call that our commander in chief made during his visit to this territory at the beginning of the year. Both events commit us even more to do our best at this time for the leadership of the revolution.

We have divided our work for both events into three major stages which we are analyzing in each peasant home. They cover from 1 January to 26 July of this year, from this date to 2 December--the 25th anniversary of the historic landing--and from that date to 26 July 1982. There will be a break before 17 May for the Sixth ANAP Congress.

[Question] How do you evaluate the work developed in the CPA [Agricultural and Livestock Cooperatives]?

[Answer] Concerning these superior forms of production, we recognize that we did not achieve great progress during the past year since we only formed 20 CPA. However, we have the bases to advance this year and we have a commitment to the ANAP National Directorate to form 30 CPA by the end of the year. Already 11 have been formed with an average of more than 20 caballerias and we will reach more than 20 by the end of April. There is great enthusiasm among the mountain peasants for these cooperatives; more than 50 percent of our CPA are in the mountains and those that are being organized now are in those areas. Niquero has two CPA with more than 60 caballerias, Bartolome Maso can end the year with two more, Guisa will have the same number before 17 May and Pilon has one CPA with 60 caballerias. During this quarter, 354 peasants including 116 women have joined the CPA.

After the commander in chief's visit to those places, the peasants' enthusiasm for the CPA was contagious. If we add the close ties to and the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, the National Bank and other related organisms, we can be sure that our plans will be successfully fulfilled.

[Question] Could you mention the production of the Granma peasantry now?

[Answer] There are 887 peasants in the cutting force for the sugar harvest. As of the end of March, we had fulfilled 97 percent with some 12 million arrobas of cane. We have two million-arroba brigades and we have sown 297 caballerias of spring cane. This commitment will be fulfilled. About 760 caballerias produced more than 70,000 arrobas. Many municipalities have yields of more than 80,000 and different CPA have yields of more than 100,000 arrobas per caballeria. Now we are involved in cane cultivation activities to insure the next harvest. Concerning coffee, we have sown more than 4 million plants. There was good cultivation work in all the CPA. We work in two directions: sowing and replanting. We have 65 caballerias under development and I think that this figure will increase with the formation of CPA in the mountains. This year we should harvest 30,500 quintals and another 1,700 quintals of cacao. There is good flowering which makes us think that there will be an excellent coffee harvest. This did not occur in the previous harvest, mainly due to climate and scant flowering. As to tobacco, we had a sowing plan of 100 caballerias but we sowed 4 more, a figure which had never been achieved here before. We should harvest 14,100 quintals but it would not be hard for us to produce 19,000. Although we have problems with irrigation and we do not have all our resources, there was a good sowing and we expect high yields. The total delivery to warehouses was discussed with all the harvesters to insure fulfillment. We also have a sowing plan for 409 caballerias of produce; 112 have already been planted during the first quarter. We will fulfill the 417,000 quintals planned which means a 38-percent increase compared to actual production in 1980. In the mentioned quarter, we were supposed to harvest 80,278 quintals but we delivered 108,671 which represents an increase of more than 12,000 quintals compared to the same period last year. In grains, 583,000 quintals will be delivered; we already overfulfilled by 24,000 quintals in the first quarter.

[Question] Would you like to give us an idea about the fulfillment of the other tasks that ANAP does in the province?

[Answer] Well, there were problems in educational tasks in the first half of last year since there was no in-depth or systematic work. However, that situation changed and now there is a positive situation. More than 3,000 peasants graduated from sixth grade and there is a noticeable increase in recreational, sports and cultural activities, study circles, etc. In spite of the fact that there are delays, there is work on subscriptions to the magazine which is distributed on time. The 20th anniversary teams work on their proposals, publicity on the CPA has increased and campaigns are adapted and carried out on time and in the proper form. During the last national plenum, only two or three criticisms were made in this sphere which shows its recovery. I feel that there are serious and sustained steps in the organizational sphere which is the core of the organism. The participation of the members in the general assemblies has improved and there is interest and discipline in the meetings of the governing boards. Particular attention is given

to the monthly and quarterly reviews of the emulation which is going well. We are now in the process of political evaluation of the cadres for the Sixth Congress; more than 80 percent achieved excellent ratings. We need to collect 160,000 pesos to pay for the expenses of the Sixth Congress. This work has not been very satisfactory but we will have more than 50 percent of this figure as a salute to 17 May and 26 July. There is also the commitment to collect 140,000 pesos to finance the MTT [Territorial Militia]; we are close to 40,000 pesos now.

[Question] After this broad overview, I have one last question. How do the ANAP Provincial Bureau and the Granma peasantry feel about this great number of achievements?

[Answer] We feel good about the fulfillment of our tasks but not satisfied. By agreement with our bureau, congratulations were sent to our peasantry for overfulfillment in all the productive branches during this quarter compared to the same period last year and success in the emulation and other assigned tasks. We reaffirmed that we are marching in step for the Sixth Congress and 26 July. We will not fail. We told the party and ANAP that we are preparing ourselves for the defense of the country as well as for increased production. We are convinced of the success of the Sixth Peasant Congress and convinced that we will celebrate 26 July 1982 here in Granma Province, a land filled with legends and a heroic history.

Santiago de Cuba Tasks

Havana ANAP in Spanish Jun 81 p 17

[Report on interview with Sigifredo Ramirez Torres, ANAP president in Santiago de Cuba Province, by Cornelio Batista Almaguer; date and place not specified]

[Text] In an interview with Sigifredo Ramirez Torres, ANAP president in Santiago de Cuba Province, he pointed out some of the main activities that the peasants in that province are developing to salute the Sixth ANAP Congress.

"The predecessors of ANAP were the National Peasant Association, the Peasant Regional Committee of the Frank Pais Second Eastern Front and all the peasant struggles throughout our fatherland. They played an important role in our revolutionary process. It is obvious that the Santiago peasantry is ready to successfully undertake present and future tasks.

"Since its constitution, ANAP has made great efforts to fulfill all the guidelines issued by the revolution. Without trying to mention all of them, we can say that it began with the development of the agrarian reform, continued with the literacy campaign and had its share of heroism in the fight against bandits and in defense of the revolution. This stage culminates with progress toward socialist forms of production.

"Progress toward superior forms of production by the peasants, as agreed on at the First Party Congress and ratified by the Fifth ANAP Congress, has been and is a basic daily task. Satisfactory results have been achieved. Along with the other tasks, this permits us today to speak about the future plans of the peasants in this province and to say that we are redoubling efforts to fulfill the agreements

of the Second Party Congress and the Fifth ANAP Congress and to salute the coming Sixth Congress with a series of activities in production, defense, study and the progress and growth of the cooperative movement.

"For 1981, our peasants propose to sow 160.9 caballerias of cane, keep all the fields clean and have them cultivated and fertilized. There must be a great effort to sow 160 caballerias of coffee and to give these fields more attention. This means cleaning, pruning, stripping the plants of suckers, regulating the shade and fertilizing. For the next harvest, ANAP members have proposed to extract pulp from 75 percent of all the coffee that is harvested in the province.

"We must also sow 799 caballerias of produce, grains, fruits and citrus and harvest more than 1.5 million quintals of agricultural products. There is a plan to sell ECIL [Dairy Industry Consolidated Enterprise] 2.5 million liters of milk, 13,400 head of cattle, 3,976 quintals of honey and wax and 934 sheep and goats.

"It is the peasant families' intention to pay their social dues and for literature and to contribute 172,000 pesos to help pay for the expenses of the MTT and make a similar contribution for the Sixth ANAP Congress.

"Concerning improvement of ties with other organisms, we propose to strengthen our joint work with the FMC [Federation of Cuban Women], UJC [Union of Young Communists], CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution], Civil Defense, the people's government, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of the Sugar Industry.

"There is also work to achieve the incorporation of capable peasants in the classrooms and for political and ideological development through study circles.

"There is good work being done in the construction and reconstruction of clubs and primary schools, encouraging technical training of the peasants and giving better attention to the protection of the flora, fauna and environment.

"The task of continuing the growth of the cooperative movement continues to be one of the priority activities of our organization on all levels this year and for the rest of the 5-year period. To advance all these tasks, we have incentives like, for example, the 20th anniversary of the Bay of Pigs Victory, the 20th anniversary of the founding of ANAP, 26 July, the Second CDR Congress and the Sixth Peasant Congress as well as other important events that will serve as stimuli in the daily work to win this new battle."

Cienfuegos Agricultural Tasks

Havana ANAP in Spanish Jul 81 p 18

[Report on interview with Edilio Gonzalez Martinez, ANAP vice president in Cienfuegos, by Chongo Leiva; date and place not specified]

[Text] "I think we must give some information on the work done in the first quarter of this year and, in this way, we will give a general idea of how our tasks are progressing. Concerning cane sowing during this period, 72 percent of land

preparation was done, 68 percent of cultivation and 61 percent of fertilization. We want to point out that we are working hard to raise these figures and to fulfill the steps of our cane program. In general, we are not facing impossible problems and, as always, the cane peasants will fulfill their commitments for the success of the next harvest. In the 1984-85 harvest, we will achieve yields of more than 80,000 arrobas per caballeria.

"Coffee production shows positive advances in its different stages. There are some delays in the regulation of shade, 78 percent of which is done, and there is 88 percent in pruning. Nevertheless, in fertilization we did 21 caballerias more than in the same period last year. In harvesting, 104,828 cans of the 120,000 planned were stored. In plant production, we had 967,000 for the sowing of 13 caballerias this year and 195,000 for next year.

"We are taking all appropriate measures at this time to fulfill the sowing plan for produce. There are some delays for different reasons. Nevertheless, we have fulfilled the plan for sales to the state by 339 percent and we delivered 2,649 quintals more than in the same period last year. There was no plan for grains but 1,209 quintals were harvested. There was 104 percent production of vegetables, harvesting 23,377 quintals more than in the same period last year. The plan for pigs was fulfilled by 116 percent, 106 percent for sheep and 82 percent for poultry. In all these cases, the figures were higher than in the first quarter of 1980.

"We proposed to end this year with 43 CPA; therefore, we must form 12 during this period. We are doing serious work in growth by area and by member. As to unification, we should have two or three cooperatives this year under the principle of 60x60, basically in the municipalities of Palmira, Rodas and Cruces. We think that these CPA will reach at least 90 caballerias. There is a coffee development plan that extends to the year 1990 in which the locations of the cooperatives and communities have been defined. We received collaboration from the Ministry of Agriculture, our highway comrades, the Electrical Enterprise and other organisms that have made commitments. The plan covers the creation of 14 CPA in the mountains. There is real enthusiasm among the peasantry and the cadres of the organization to fulfill this work.

"At present, we have 29 CPA which cover 387 caballerias and have a total of 641 members. This historic task of ANAP demands our greatest efforts and absolute dedication. We are optimistic about fulfilling each stage of the plans.

"As to the internal life, we can report that 98 percent of the general assemblies and 97 percent of administrative councils were held during that period. Development of the emulation was strengthened with the guidelines of the organization as well as with the recommendations of our party. The quarterly and semiannual assemblies are held with quality and the winners receive awards. During this quarter, there were also the corresponding reviews done with the same quality as the provincial assembly.

"The study circles had 75 percent attendance. During the 6 months that ended in February, 35 peasants were incorporated in the SOC [Workers and Peasants Secondary School] classrooms and 30 finished. In February, we incorporated 86 members into the EOC [Workers and Peasants Education]. The municipalities of Cumanayagua and

Rodas excelled in this work. We sponsored 260 primary schools in which there is an ANAP delegate to the school council. Also the province has 44 amateur groups and, during this period, there were many recreational, cultural and sports activities.

"Concerning the Sixth Congress, we can report that we have completed all the organizational processes indicated. To date, we have collected 35,172 pesos of the planned 81,585 pesos. The 7,031 members in this province feel the congress is theirs and they are enthusiastic and happy about it. To carry out the motto of defense, more than 40 percent of our peasantry is in the MTT. Of the planned 79,348 pesos to pay for its expenses, we have already collected 60,192 pesos.

"In general, this is some of the work that the Cienfuegos peasantry is doing in salute to 26 July and the Sixth ANAP Congress and as an important part of the fulfillment of the agreements of the Second Party Congress."

7717
CSO: 3010/1840

ARGENTINE ECONOMICS, MARTINEZ DE HOZ CRITICIZED

Havana PRISMA LATINOAMERICANO in Spanish Jul 81 p 58

[Article by Jose Bodes Gomez: "Time Passed Judgement"]

[Text] Five years is long enough to be able to analyze the results of an economic policy. This is the case in Argentina, and its experience should be borne in mind by other countries in Latin America which are using similar models in directing their economies.

The "Memorial" recently published by the Argentine Ministry of Economy, at the end of the official term of the government team led by Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, indicates that the basic pillars of the current program have been to make the government a subsidiary and to open the economy to the outside.

Regarding the former point, the report states that 120 government companies were transferred fully or partially to the private sector. In addition the government divested itself of all the shares it held in 207 mixed companies.

The two basic goals of the economic program were thoroughly applied in the petroleum industry. According to the official document, the private sector's participation in petroleum exploration and exploitation increased from 25 percent in 1976 to 39.5 percent in 1981.

The Risk Contracts Law allowed the private petroleum companies to be awarded a 110,000 square kilometer area, distributed between land area and the continental shelf.

The report adds that "national and foreign private companies have also been invited to participate in the development of known deposits in which additional investments must be made to achieve better recovery of hydrocarbons." That is, in this case there is no risk at all for private capital since they are being given proven resources in which the government funds were invested first.

The energy policy also affected the institutional structure which Argentina had managed to create over a period of 4 decades despite several previous attempts to change it. In 1976, as the official report admits, the production, refining, and transportation of energy were mainly done by government companies. Now the

structure of those companies has been modified to place their management in the hands of multisectorial boards of directors, and to top it off, in 1979, government control over the industrialization and sale of petroleum derivatives was abolished.

The argument used in favor of putting the Argentine economy into the hands of private enterprise was the "inefficiency" of government companies, while in arguing the reduction of tariffs the musty old principle of "free competition" was invoked.

This apparently liberal philosophy, as several Argentine economists have said, is highly pro-monopolist, and is inspired by the most reactionary economic theories of today. They are the ideas of Milton Friedman and Friedrich von Hayek, conceived as a solution to the capitalist system's crisis, from their lecture rooms in the United States.

The practice comes hand in hand with the theory, and the report of the Ministry of the Economy notes support for that economic policy from the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, "which have granted a record number of loans for developing various areas of the Argentine economy."

However, such an injection of dollars was not enough to prevent a deficit in the balance of payments for the last 2 years, while the foreign debt tripled during the 1976 to 1980 period. As a corollary to this situation, international monetary reserves began to drop during the past year, and so far this year the drop has increased dangerously.

The administrative machinery also underwent serious readjustments intended to achieve maximum efficiency. Ferrocarriles Argentinos, one of the companies in which this policy was applied most widely, cut its trackage by 25 percent and fired 60,000 workers. Nevertheless, the nation's fiscal deficit for last year was over \$4 billion, according to international methodology.

Inflation might be reduced from triple to double digits, but without reaching the rates predicted by the Ministry of the Economy. We are in the presence of a very peculiar phenomenon here: in recent years prices have risen to levels that make a long list of consumer goods inaccessible to the majority of Argentines; this makes it impossible for inflation to rise even farther because of the extreme contraction of the domestic market.

The Richard Allis real estate company of Britain recently published a study revealing that renting an office in Buenos Aires is more expensive than in London, New York, or Paris. Rents were also included in the "free competition" system, and today housing costs absorb over half of the average salary.

"The only thing that is cheap in Argentina is dollars," a Spanish journalist commented sarcastically upon showing that the peso had become a sort of "monetary fiction" because of the exchange rate system in force until March of this year.

The results of a 5-year period of an economic policy inspired by the neoliberal model that relegates the government to a subsidiary role and almost

unconditionally opens the door to the transnational companies is that the structural crisis from which Argentina has been suffering since the 1930's has been worsened; in addition, it has unleashed a joint crisis that manifests itself most severely in financial chaos, stagnation of production, and a rapid drop in the people's standard of living.

The other Latin American countries, such as Chile and Uruguay, which are following the same model, cannot expect better luck.

8587
CSO: 3010/1795

BRIEFS

DEATH OF MARTIN HERNANDEZ--Following a lengthy illness, Col Edel Martin Hernandez, pilot 1st class in the Revolutionary Armed Forces, died in the capital on 18 August. Martin Hernandez came from humble origins. He was born on 16 March 1938, on the La Carolina ranch in Zaza del Medio, now Las Villas Province. He attended rural elementary school No 86, located in the area. In 1952, upon the completion of the eighth grade and lacking the money to continue his studies, he went to work with his father as a farm worker. In 1957, he found a job in a drugstore in Santa Clara. He began his revolutionary activities around May 1958, performing underground tasks. A month later, he joined the Rebel Army in Escambray. He participated in the battles of Caracusey, Pacetas, Fomento, Santa Clara and Guinia de Miranda. With the triumph of the Revolution in 1959, he completed his training as a liaison pilot and later was trained as a fighter pilot, becoming skilled in the handling and mastery of the Mig aircraft. In 1965, he joined the ranks of the Communist Party of Cuba. Two years later, he went to Vietnam on a special mission. He completed military courses at the War College of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the Voroshilov Military Academy in the USSR. His merits and qualifications caused him to be promoted to various posts and the leadership of units in the Revolutionary Armed Forces. He received the 20th Anniversary of Moncada and the 20th Anniversary of the Revolutionary Armed Forces medals. [Text] [Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 30 Aug 81 p 56] 11,464

JOINT CONSTRUCTION AGREEMENT WITH LIBYA--In Havana, Libya and Cuba have exchanged documents ratifying an agreement between the two countries concerning the establishment of a joint construction company. The document was signed at the Cuban Ministry of Foreign Affairs by 'Ali Muhammad Al-Ejili, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyyah in Cuba, and Oscar Oramas, deputy minister of foreign relations of Cuba. The agreement between Cuba and Libya concerning the establishment of the joint enterprise for construction was signed on 20 September 1979 in Habana. In keeping with the Technical, Economic and Commercial Cooperation Agreement between Cuba and Libya, signed in Tripoli on 9 March 1979, and in compliance with the protocol between the two countries signed on 12 February 1979, authorization was given for the creation of the Arab Libyan-Cuban Enterprise, with headquarters in the Libyan capital, for the construction of buildings and their maintenance. The enterprise will be empowered to undertake import and export operations and other commercial activities. Following the signing of the document, Oscar Oramas and 'Ali Muhammad Al-Ejili gave strong speeches emphasizing the bonds of sincere friendship and cooperation between the two nations and the common fight against American imperialism. [By Arnaldo Musa] [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 27 Aug 81 p 3] 11,464

UPM RAPS CHARLES' CRITICISM OF GRENADA, U.S. AID POLICY

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 7 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

KINGSTOWN, St. Vincent, States — stipulated that Sunday (CANA) — A Dominica Government statement that Grenada, by its refusal to hold elections to legitimise the revolutionary regime there was holding up foreign aid to the other Eastern Caribbean islands, has come under attack here.

The small left wing United Peoples Movement (UPM) has accused the Dominica Prime Minister Miss Eugenia Charles, who made the statement of trying to be deceptive.

The controversy followed a recent Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) decision not to accept a US\$4 million grant for the Windwards and Leewards, because its donors — the United

Grenada, which has a leftist revolutionary government, should not benefit.

Said UPM general secretary Renwick Rose: "If the U.S. is really interested in giving four million dollars to Caribbean islands and wants to exclude some, Rose said, all it has to do is not to go through the CDB, but to divide up the money among those it considers its friends in the region and give them without asking them to exclude any other country."

"What they are trying to do by trying to use the CDB, is to create division among the Caribbean countries" he added.

Rose also attacked Miss Charles' decision to refuse a

number of scholarships offered by the Cuban Government on the grounds that the students would be indoctrinated in communism.

Said Rose: "It's nonsense and a blatant lie to talk about students being indoctrinated."

"The students are pursuing academic courses, he asserted.

He said there were no compulsory political studies in the scholarships. "They are free to go to church or to carry on whatever social activities" he said.

Rose deemed Miss Charles' statement as one which is trying to discredit the Cuban Government and trying to see what little funds she can get from her American masters by trying to carry out such propaganda."

CSO: 3025/02

MINISTER RETURNS WITH PROMISES OF AID FROM VENEZUELA

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 2 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

ROSEAU, Dominica.
Tuesday (CANA) — Venezuela has promised to assist Dominica in a number of areas including agriculture, and the construction of two primary schools, Dominica's Communications, Works and Tourism Minister Henry Dyer said yesterday.

Mr. Dyer led a high-level delegation to the South American country for discussions on funding for projects in Dominica and technical assistance.

Mr. Dyer told a news conference yesterday that the two countries would soon sign an agreement on a US\$500 000 soft term loan to be used on projects approved by the Venezuelan Government.

Mr. Dyer said the delegation presented a number of projects to the Venezuelans which they could finance on a soft term loan basis. The projects would cost about US\$12.8 million he added.

The delegation had been told that 'most of the projects could qualify for assistance under the Venezuelan Investment Fund but require a little more details.'

He said that there was a strong possibility that Venezuela would help reconstruct a portion of a road linking the villages of Loubiere and Scotshead on the southern part of the island.

In this regard, an engineer would be arriving here within the next two weeks to assess the projects, the Minister added.

Mr. Dyer said that the Venezuelans had agreed to construct two elementary schools in the rural areas, and provide scholarships for Dominicans in the fields of agriculture, sports, education and medicine. There would also be attachments by Dominica's tourism officials to Venezuela.

The Venezuelan Government has also agreed to host a 'Tourism Awareness seminar' to include delegates from the Caribbean region the seminar would be held in Dominica at a date to be announced.

When the delegation left here government said that it would be discussing the funding of an international airport. Mr. Dyer said that there was a strong possibility of Venezuela providing assistance in this area.

The Minister said that under the friendship and co-operation treaty with Venezuela, Dominica had decided to allow the Venezuelans to erect a bust of their National Hero Simon Bolivar at the Old Mill Art Centre, participate in an exchange of students, and have radio time to help Dominicans understand Spanish.

CSO: 3025/02

BISHOP SAYS ECONOMY IS BUFFETED BY EXTERNAL PRESSURES

Kingston THE SUNDAY CLEANER in English 13 Sep 81 p 4

[Text] St George, Grenada, Sept 10 (CANA): Grenada is losing millions of dollars because of the economic recession in the western industrialised nations, according to Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

Mr Bishop said that the country's economy is facing a severe threat because four of its five major foreign exchange earners are under tremendous pressure.

The government reported this week that the agriculture sector, primarily bananas, nutmegs and cocoa, suffered almost \$1.2 [as published] in damage from last month's freak storm.

Grenada had been forced to store a large quantity of nutmegs because of its inability to find markets for the product, Mr Bishop said.

He added that a recent 55 percent drop in the price of cocoa on the world market was affecting the Grenadian economy.

Bananas

Mr Bishop noted that the situation was similar in the banana industry and said "our farmers are questioning whether it is at all feasible to continue to produce bananas."

"The agricultural export earners have been in for a battering and there is no immediate signs that things are about to improve," he said.

The Grenadian Prime Minister said that the threat posed to the Grenada economy was severe because the country's tourism sector was also being hampered by the recession.

Mr Bishop charged that a propaganda destabilisation campaign aimed at Grenada was also ensuring a drop in foreign exchange earnings from tourism.

CSO: 3025/04

PPP CENTRAL COMMITTEE STATEMENT ASSAILS PNC ADMINISTRATION

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 7 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

GEOGETOWN, Guyana, Sunday (CANA) — The Peoples Progressive Party (PPP), the official opposition here, has accused the ruling Peoples National Congress (PNC) of failing to come to grips with worsening social and economic conditions here.

The PPP issued a statement at the end of a meeting of its Central Committee at which "the worsening conditions of the Guyanese working people under the undemocratic and corrupt rule of the PNC were subjects of broad discussions."

The Central Committee reviewed particularly the process of the deepening of the political, economic and social crisis engulfing the nation and the inability of the ruling party

to solve the most vital questions facing the people and the country," the statement said.

According to the PPP, the inability stems from the nature of the petty bourgeois, nationalist regime which seeks only to keep itself in power contrary to the wishes of the vast majority of the people.

"Its pro-imperialist position and its lack of internal support, together with the PNC's demagogic postures of socialism have paved the way for imperialist agencies like the International Monetary Fund to dictate anti-working class policies," the PPP charged.

The opposition party contended that there is a lack of democracy, which has led to a sharp decline in production,

steep rise in the cost of living, inflation, devaluation of the Guyana dollar and consequently, political repression to suppress the struggles for betterment.

"The Central Committee unanimously resolved to continue the fight for a Government of national consensus based on democracy, anti-imperialism and socialist orientation as a sure and realistic solution to the plight of the country and the working class," the PPP said.

"For the removal of the regime, the party has decided to strengthen itself and use every possible avenue available to organise the toiling masses," the statement adds.

CSO: 3025/04

VISA POLICY ON CUBANS ENROUTE TO HONDURAS UNDER REVIEW

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 7 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Sunday (CANA) — The Jamaican Embassy in Havana might have to review its procedure for granting visas to Cubans passing through Jamaica in light of recent problems with those who had come here expecting to go to Honduras. Foreign Minister Hugh Shearer, has disclosed.

Over the past month, scores of Cubans have come here expecting to get visas from the Honduran Consulate in Kingston to go to that country where they would await entry to the United States.

However, most have run into difficulties, as the Consul has only been able to grant a few visas based on names received from the Foreign Ministry in Tegucigalpa.

Sources close to the Cubans had said that 500 Cubans had been granted intransit visas by the Jamaican Embassy in

Havana, and were in fact in Jamaica.

But in a brief meeting with reporters on Friday, Mr. Shearer said that figure was high, though he could not say how many had been granted.

He also said that Jamaica did not categorise the Cubans as refugees, but rather people intransit in Jamaica going elsewhere.

They must have been able to satisfy the Havana Embassy that they already had onward visas or were certain to collect them here to have been granted Jamaican visas, Mr. Shearer said.

Pressed on the failure of most of the Cubans to acquire their visas to leave Jamaica, Mr. Shearer said: "We might have to review the procedure of granting visas to Cubans. If you have a system that does not work the obvious step is to seek to change it."

CSO: 3025/04

MINISTER SAYS SUBVERSIVES STIR TROUBLE IN WORKPLACE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

"THE COUNTRY has got to find strategies to deal with the small band of subversive elements which are stirring up trouble in the workplace", the Minister of Labour the Hon. J.A.G. Smith said yesterday at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, New Kingston.

Speaking at the quarterly meeting of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Mr. Smith said that much of the industrial unrest in Jamaica was being stirred up by subversives who were often times not connected to the particular work place.

Citing a case in point, the Labour Minister said that during the National Water Commission strike last week the people who had turned off the valves were not employed by the commission.

Mr. Smith warned that the attitude of some top management in staying aloof from what is happening in their organizations was not a good one as it did not foster good work relations. "This gives the appearance of a big-man syndrome", he said. He also noted that many firms needed to update their industrial relations system in order to stem the rising incidence of industrial conflicts.

MR. SMITH SAID JAMAICA WAS SUFFERING a severe shortage of accountants with only 300 registered at the Institute up to April 1. Between 1978-80 some 235 work permits were granted to expatriate accountants with some 53 being issued from the beginning of the year to August.

He congratulated the Institute of Chartered Accountants on the work done to keep business enterprises open during the economic depression over the past years. He also stressed that all accountants had a vital role to play in the Jamaica's new trust for economic survival.

CSO: 3025/04

BRIEFS

PNP ON U.S. POLICY--Kingston, Jamaica, Thursday (CANA)--the Opposition People's National Party (PNP) here has called on the Jamaica government to use its "good relations and influence with the Reagan administration" to help change U.S. policy in black Africa. The PNP's call came in a statement here in which the party condemned the United States veto of a United Nations Security Council resolution condemning South Africa's incursion into Angola last week, and calling for an immediate withdrawal of Pretoria's troops and for restitution. The United States was the only country opposing the resolution, causing a split in the ranks of the Western nations on the South Africa-Namibia-Angola issue. Angola is one of the frontline African states bordering South Africa attempting to secure Namibian independence. The PNP commended France's support for the resolution. The party's statement said the U.S. had used its veto power to block measures aimed at "countering the aggression of the racist South Africans against black Africans." [Excerpt] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 4 Sep 81 p 3]

RAID ON WPJ OFFICES--Several films and tapes were taken from the office of the Workers' Party of Jamaica, 50 Lady Musgrave Road, St Andrew by the police on Monday. "A quantity of pharmaceutical drugs was also taken from a clinic established on the premises. These are held pending further investigations," a news release from the Police Information Centre yesterday said. Dr Trevor Munroe, General Secretary of the WPJ and his attorney were present when the office at 50 Lady Musgrave Road and at his home in Mona were visited and searched by the police, the news release said. The police had intensified their investigations following the arrest of Dr Munroe's bodyguard, Michael Gordon, last week, on a charge of illegal possession of firearm, and the discovery of "certain documents." "The C.I.B. has now taken over certain aspects of the investigation. On the afternoon of Monday, September 7, Dr Munroe and his attorney upon request of the Police, attended the office of the Assistant Commissioner of Police C.I.B. headquarters. "Dr Munroe was interviewed with respect to the documents and other things found in the car. The office at W.P.J. headquarters, 50 Lady Musgrave Road and at his home in Mona were visited and searched in the presence of his attorney and himself by the police. At Lady Musgrave Road, a number of tapes and films were taken and examined. A quantity of pharmaceutical drugs was also taken from a clinic established on the premises. These are held pending further investigation," the release said. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 10 Sep 81 p 1]

DONALDSON NOTES RECENT ILLEGAL FOREIGN OVERFLIGHT

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 21 Aug 81 p 1

[Article by Francis Joseph]

[Excerpt]

NATIONAL SECURITY Minister, Senator John Donaldson, told 131 recruits of the Trinidad and Tobago Regiment yesterday at Teteron Barracks, to prepare themselves to defend their country in times of emergency and danger.

This call came shortly after Senator Donaldson told the recruits of the presence of an unidentified military aircraft passing over Trinidad two or three days ago.

The Minister said that the aircraft, which comes from another country which he could not name, came into contact with the air traffic base at Piarco International Airport earlier this week.

He said the presence of the aircraft over Trinidad was a disrespect to the nation's sovereignty, and it was therefore endangering the welfare of the society.

The National Security

Minister told the recruits that they must be ready to assist the community in times of emergency and in the period when the public services or utilities were not available.

Senator Donaldson said because of this, the Community Services Division (CSD) had been established and together with the Defence Force establishment, the Ministry of National Security was appropriately enlarged.

CSO: 3025/05

STATE-OWNED ENTERPRISES SHOW BIG LOSSES OVER 5 YEARS

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 5 Sep 81 p 3

[Text]

POR-T-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad, Friday, (CANA) — Three state-owned enterprises in Trinidad and Tobago have run up losses of close to \$1 billion in the five years, a Cabinet Minister has told Parliament.

State Enterprises Minister Errol Mahabir, replying to a question from Opposition Leader Basdeo Panday, said that Caroni (1975) Limited the largest sugar producing company here, lost \$299.5 million between 1975 and 1980 and if new wage demands were taken into account, the losses would total \$338.6 million in 1981.

"Caroni moved from a profit of \$9.4 million in 1975 to a loss of \$19.4 million in 1976. Therefore the company lost \$28.8 million in 1977, \$76.6 million in 1978, \$60.4 million in 1979 and \$123.6 million in 1980," the Minister said.

He said that Caroni's estimated loss in 1981 is \$259.9 million.

BWIA, the national airline, lost \$294.5 million over the five-year period 1975-1980. The airline, he said, lost \$30.1 million in 1975, \$5.8 million in 1976, \$8.9 million in 1977, \$57.8 million in 1978, \$75.9 million in 1979 and \$115.9 million in 1980.

BWIA's estimated loss for this year is \$73.8 million.

The Public Transport Service Corporation (PTSC) which runs

the state-owned bus system lost \$298.9 million in the five year up to 1980. The money was government subventions to cover the difference between the officially controlled fare structure and actual costs.

Those subventions totalled \$20.8 million in 1975, \$26.6 million in 1976, \$44.5 million in 1977, \$56.9 million in 1977, \$69.3 million in 1979 and \$80.6 million in 1980.

In response to another question from Mr. Panday, Mr. Mahabir disclosed that former Caroni Limited managing director, Gordon Maingot had been paid \$233,750 in severance benefits amounting 27 ½ months salary.

Mr. Mahabir explained that when Caroni shareholders appointed a new board of directors in May 1980, Mr. Maingot's post was made redundant.

As an interim measure, Mr. Maingot was subsequently made acting Chief Executive Officer. But it was then decided that Mr. Maingot's services should be served with effect from March 31, 1981.

Mr. Maingot's compensation was negotiated between himself and a committee of the board, which agreed that Mr. Maingot would be paid only severance benefits.

CSO: 3025/05

BRIEFS

FOREIGN RESERVE GROWTH--Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Wednesday (UPI)--The oil-rich Caribbean state of Trinidad and Tobago now has foreign reserves of US\$3.5 billion, according to Central Bank Governor Victor Bruce. Bruce said the economy is so buoyant that banks have reached local majority ownership and at the end of last year, the local banking system had accumulated financial assets of US\$2.6 billion, a ten-fold increase over 1970. In an attempt to "Trinidadianise" banking institutions, the Government of Prime Minister George Chambers has instructed banks operating here to divest shares to nationals. The result is that several banks, including those of Nova Scotia, Royal Bank, Canadian Imperial and Citibank have sold majority shareholdings to nationals. It is important, Bruce said in a speech at the opening of Royal Bank's 16th branch, to ensure that the financial institutions make an efficient contribution to economic development. Bruce said the present rate of inflation is unacceptable and Trinidad ought to pursue "well known fiscal and monetary policies to restrain the price rise." Inflation peaked in 1974 at 22 per cent, then suffered a decline and rose again in 1979 and in 1980 has not deviated from 17.5 per cent. Bruce said Trinidad is today the fourth wealthiest nation in the western hemisphere. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 3 Sep 81 p 3]

PAY DISPUTE SETTLEMENT--Port-of-Spain Trinidad Saturday (UPI)--The Government of Trinidad and Tobago has settled a four-year-old pay dispute with the all Trinidad Sugar and General Workers Trade Union, which represents workers at the government-owned Caroni Limited sugar mill. State Enterprises Minister Errol Mahabir said the 1 000 workers will receive wage increases totalling US\$10.5 million for the three-year period retroactive to January 1980. Mahabir said the new agreement would be signed next week. Among the issues resolved were sick leave, holiday with pay, public holidays and severance pay. A pension plan for workers based on average pay in the last five years of work is to be worked out at a later date, Mahabir said. [Text] [Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 6 Sep 81 p 3]

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